

The background of the cover is a photograph of a stone building with several multi-paned windows. The windows reflect a blue sky with clouds. In the foreground, there are green leaves and clusters of pink and yellow flowers. A purple rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the title text. The bottom right corner features the West Chester University logo.

2025 ANNUAL

CAMPUS SECURITY AND **FIRE SAFETY REPORT**

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WELCOME FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

On behalf of the Department of Public Safety, welcome to West Chester University! We hope you find this report helpful as it regards your safety and security on campus. As a community, we believe safety is of the utmost importance and is everyone's responsibility and the primary responsibility of the Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety is responsible for the protection of life and property, the enforcement of state laws and University policies, the prevention and detection of on-campus crimes and other violations, emergency response management, and fire and other safety services.

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you information regarding Public Safety policies, programs, and services; campus crime statistics; fire safety statistics, education and training, and evacuation policies and procedures. This information is provided to meet the requirements of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

In this report, you will find valuable information regarding the many resources available through the Department of Public Safety. Additional safety and security information can be found on the Public Safety website at [WCU Public Safety](#). You can always reach Public Safety by phone at (610) 436-3311 for general inquiries.

Thank you for taking the time to review the information included in this Report. By working together, we can all make West Chester University's campus a safer place.

Sincerely,

Raymond C. Stevenson

Director & Chief of Police

West Chester University Police Department

PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORT

West Chester University prepares this report in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. This report is written by the Department of Public Safety with help from myriad offices across campus. Those offices are: Center for Women and Gender Equity, Department of Counseling and Psychological Services, Department of Public Safety, Department of Environmental Health and Safety, Department of Athletics, Office of Student Conduct, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Office of Student Leadership and Involvement, Office of Human Resource Services, Office of the Title IX Coordinator, and Office of Institutional Research. The full text of this report is located on the University's website on the [WCU Public Safety Website](#). This report was prepared in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies across the Commonwealth and the country. Those agencies are critical in the accurate reporting of crime statistics for non-campus locations.

Each campus partner collaborating on the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report provides updated information on its educational efforts and programs to comply with the Act. Statistics for campus crime, arrest and referrals include those reported to the West Chester University Police, Campus Security Authorities, and local law enforcement agencies.

The Department of Counseling and Psychological Services staff informs their clients of the procedures to report a crime to the University's Department of Public Safety on a voluntary or confidential basis, should they feel it is in the best interest of the client. Procedures are in place to anonymously capture crime statistics disclosed confidentially during such a session.

All the statistics gathered, compiled, and reported to the University are communicated to the community via this report. The Department of Public Safety also submits the annual crime statistics published in this report to the Department of Education (ED) each October after the publication of the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report. The statistical information submitted to and gathered by the Department of Education is available to the public through the ED website.

On the day the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is published (on or before October 1) an e-mail providing statement the ASFSR is available, a brief description of the report, the direct website link to access this report, and a notification of where to access obtain hard copies of the report is sent to all enrolled students and current employees. Copies of the report can be obtained at the West Chester University Police Department located within the Peoples Building at 690 South Church Street or by calling (610) 436-3311. All prospective students and employees receive notification of the availability of the report and how to obtain them during the application process.



WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) consists of four separate divisions—the Patrol Division, the Security Division, the Electronic Security Division and the Electronic Security Division. DPS is also responsible for providing security on West Chester University's West Chester campus and Graduate Center locations during certain hours. It is a point of pride within the Department that DPS is one of only a handful of 24-hour departments on campus.

Call out [As the Department with primary responsibility for security on campus the West Chester University Police are dedicated to serving the needs of the University community. For emergencies contact the DPS Communications Center by dialing 911, or 610-436-3311 or dialing campus extension 3311. Emergency Phones located across campus will also connect you to the Public Safety dispatcher.]

Call out[Not near a Blue light? You can always use the Mobile Blue Light feature on the WCUSafe app (with graphic of home screen of WCUSafe app)]

THE DIVISION OF POLICE SERVICES

The Division of Police Services consists of full-time sworn police officers who have received training under the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Act (Act 120). West Chester University Police officers are professionally certified by the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission. These officers are also required to attend annual update training under PA Act 180. The Division of Police Services also employs 3 full-time emergency dispatchers who receive professional training through APCO (Association of Public Safety Communications Officials). The Police Division is commanded by the Captain of the West Chester University Police Department.

THE DIVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES

The Division of Security Services employs 12 full-time and 15 part-time seasonal non-sworn security officers. Their primary responsibility is to provide security coverage in and around the West Chester campus' residential areas. Security officers are assigned to academic facilities and the library as well. Security Officers are on duty between 8 pm and 4 am in the residence halls.

Besides the residence halls, Frances Harvey Green Library is staffed with Security Officers seven days a week. Security Officers staffing the library are responsible for active patrol of the library and

grounds beginning Monday morning through Friday evening and between the hours of 9 am and 6 pm on Saturday and Sunday. This position is responsible for patrolling all interior and exterior areas of the library, monitoring patrons for unruliness or loudness, enforcing all University regulations, checking for any security or safety problems, and reporting all crimes occurring in the library to our dispatch center.

The Library Security Officer is also responsible for assisting with clearing the library during closing, locking doors, and activating the alarm panel. Additional duties include assisting in medical emergencies, fires, and fire drills and building evacuations.

The Security Division is commanded by the Lieutenant of the West Chester University Police Department.

THE DIVISION OF PARKING SERVICES

The Division of Parking Services employs 1 full-time Administrative Assistant and 3 part-time parking clerks responsible for the sale and issuance of parking permits on campus for faculty, staff and students. The Division also employs 3 full-time and 1 part-time Parking Enforcement officer. These officers are responsible for the enforcement of all parking regulations as well as monitoring parking lots and garages during their tour of duty. The Division of Parking Services is headed by the Parking Services Manager.

THE DIVISION OF ELECTRONIC SECURITY SERVICES

The Division of Electronic Security Services employs 3 full-time employees who are primarily responsible for the operation and maintenance of the campus card access and CCTV systems. West Chester University has an extensive network of over 1325 cameras. The Division of Electronic Security Services also maintains electronic notification systems for emergency notifications across campus. As well to maintaining these systems the Division is also responsible for testing these systems. The Division of Electronic Security Services is headed by the Electronic Security Specialist.

ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY POLICE

West Chester University police officers exercise the same powers as those held by any municipal police agency in Pennsylvania. West Chester University police officers also enforce all applicable University policies like the WCU Student Code of Conduct as well as violations of State, Local and Federal laws.

If a university student commits an offense for which the student is arrested, the WCU Police may also refer the individual to the Office of Student Conduct. Cases in the Office of Student Conduct proceed and exist separately from any criminal case initiated by WCU Police.

JURISDICTIONAL AUTHORITY OF WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY POLICE

The jurisdictional authority of campus police officers employed by Pennsylvania State System of High Education institutions is determined by Pennsylvania Act 188. Under that statute, West Chester University police officers have the authority to arrest any person who endangers, manipulates, or destroys the property of the institution or commits any other offense including threats or acts of terrorism on the grounds and in the buildings of the institution. Grounds means "...all lands and buildings owned, controlled, leased or managed by the system and all highways, trafficways and bicycle and pedestrian facilities that travers such lands and buildings. These definitions do not affect the definitions of certain locations under the Clery Act.

West Chester University police officers have jurisdiction to operate only on WCU-owned or controlled property. *West Chester University Police officers do not have any extended jurisdiction. For example, West Chester University Police do not patrol the Graduate Center or the Exton Campus, nor do they patrol anywhere in the borough of West Chester.* When requested by surrounding jurisdictions West Cheser University police officers will assist on calls.

ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF UNIVERSITY SECURITY OFFICERS

University security officers are authorized to enforce University policies and procedures on campus property and may detain individuals for violations until custody can be transferred to a police officer. University security officers do not have the authority to make arrests. The patrol jurisdiction of security officers is limited to any buildings or properties owned or controlled by West Chester University. For violations of the Student Code of Conduct, University security officers can submit reports of policy violations to the Office of Student Conduct. The Office of Student Conduct then makes the charging decision regarding alleged policy violations.

JURISDICTION OF UNIVERSITY SECURITY OFFICERS

Security Officers provide coverage in all north campus Residence Halls from 8:00 pm until 4:00 am every day of the week during the spring and fall semesters. Security Officers also conduct foot patrols inside and outside of all the residential areas. Security coverage is provided as needed in residence halls occurring during the summer months and during breaks. Security Officers patrol in each hall and access to the building is permitted only using the RAM Card access system or by a resident student signing in a guest.

WCU Security Officers also patrol South Campus on foot and have a substation located on South Campus.

Security Officers conduct foot patrols inside and outside of all residential areas. At least one security officer is posted at the Graduate Center and the Exton Campus where certain graduate programs and Physician Assistant programs are located, respectively.

safety in NUMBERS:

Some facts about WCU Police

24/7

Calls are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

21

SWORN POLICE OFFICERS¹

27

SECURITY OFFICERS IN VARIOUS CAMPUS LOCATIONS



At least 4 patrol cars on a shift in addition to any officers on foot and bicycle

3

FULL TIME DISPATCHERS



West Chester University police officers undergo more than 900 hours of initial training in the police academy and after successful completion of the academy are required to undergo an additional 960 hours of field training with an experienced Field Training Officer.

Officers must undergo a minimum of 12 additional in-service hours yearly



¹ This figure includes those sworn officers in administration and WCUPD's two full-time detectives.

POLICY ON POSSESSION OF WEAPONS BY PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL

University police officers are authorized to carry firearms and are certified in their use on a bi-annual basis. Public Safety officers may carry other devices including but not limited to Tasers, pepper spray, batons, and other devices necessary to affect control and arrest.

POLICY ON POSSESSION OF WEAPONS ON CAMPUS

The use, possession, or transportation of fireworks, knives, a paintball, Airsoft or BB gun, explosives, and any other weapon are prohibited on the campus and in any building of West Chester University. Also prohibited is the use, possession, or transportation of any item designed or used in such a way as to inflict bodily harm or physical damage.

The University prohibits the unlawful use, possession, or transportation of a firearm or firearm ammunition. See [WCU Student Code of Conduct](#).

POLICE ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AND JURISDICTION AT WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY'S OTHER LOCATIONS.¹

GRADUATE CENTER LOCATION

The Department of Public Safety is responsible for providing security only during specific times at the Graduate Center located at 1160 McDermott Drive in West Goshen Township. A Security Officer is posted at the site from 5:00 pm until 10:00 pm Monday to Thursday during the academic year. The West Goshen Township Police Department is responsible for responding to and investigating all criminal incidents and emergencies at the Graduate Center. In preparation for the Annual Security Report, the Department of Public Safety requests statistics from West Goshen Police Department. The Graduate Center locations maintain its own Daily Crime Log available online and at the Department of Public Safety location at the West Chester location.

EXTON LOCATION

The Exton location of West Chester University closed permanently on June 27, 2025. All programs at that location were relocated to either the Graduate Center location or the West Chester campus. The statistics for 2024 for the Exton location are included in this ASFSR.

DCCC MARPLE CAMPUS

The Department of Safety and Security at the Marple Campus of Delaware County Community College provides the primary response to all emergency and non-emergency calls at all campuses and centers. All officers are uniformed college employees. The main security office is in Room 2200 of the Academic Building on

the Marple campus (901 S. Media Line Road, Media, PA 19063). Emergencies should be reported to 610-359-5111 or dial 911. Security at this facility is not associated with the WCU Department of Public Safety.

WCU PHILADELPHIA CENTER LOCATION

The West Chester University Department of Public Safety does not provide campus security for its Philadelphia Center location. Security of the Lits Building, in which the Philadelphia Center is located, is provided by Allied Universal, a private building security firm contracted with Brickstone Realty, the building management company. The Philadelphia Police Department, 9th Police District², provides police services for the Philadelphia campus. Emergencies should be reported to 911 first and building security second. Features of the Philadelphia Campus are explained in a separate Annual Security Report for that campus. A Daily Crime Log is not kept at the Philadelphia Center since West Chester University does not have a security or police department at that campus; building security is provided by the building management company and police coverage is provided by the Philadelphia Police Department.

WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

The Department of Public Safety, particularly the WCU Police Department, maintains a strong working relationship with the Pennsylvania State Police and local police departments, especially municipalities whose jurisdiction is adjacent to campus. These agencies include the West Chester Borough Police, West Goshen Township Police Department, Westtown-East Goshen Police, and the West Whiteland Township Police. WCU Police is engaged in the sharing of specialized resources with these departments. The Department of Public Safety maintains primary law enforcement jurisdiction at West Chester University's West Chester campus and is responsible for the investigation of all criminal incidents occurring at that location.

The Department of Public Safety maintains mutual aid agreements with surrounding municipal police agencies; activated when the on-duty supervisor of either Department requests the other for assistance. West Chester University's dispatchers can hear the radio traffic of all surrounding jurisdictions, and vice versa.

While there are no written agreements or memorandums of understanding between agencies, when necessary and practical each agency may rely on the other for investigation assistance; this occurs in many instances. The Department participates in regional law enforcement teams, task forces, and training exercises that support the goal of safety on campus.

CRIMES OCCURRING AT OFF-CAMPUS LOCATIONS OF OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The West Chester University Police and the West Chester Borough Police share information regarding criminal activity occurring at locations owned or controlled by a West Chester University student

¹ As part of the Middle States Accreditation, West Chester University was determined to only have one campus. Exton, Philadelphia, and the Graduate Center will be referred to as "locations" in this Report instead of alternate campuses.

² The 6th Police District merged into the 9th Police District on May 1, 2024 at 12:01 AM

organization that is officially recognized by the institution. These locations are considered Non-Campus property under the Clery Act are and reportable locations.

West Chester Borough Police Department routinely provides information to the University regarding incidents involving students residing or visiting within the Borough of West Chester or East Bradford Township. The West Goshen Township Police provides information to the University regarding incidents involving students residing or visiting within West Goshen Township. However, these external law enforcement agencies do this out of courtesy and are not to notify or involve the WCU Police Department when they respond to a call involving private property. Students in these cases may be subject to arrest by the police department where the illegal activity occurred and through the University student conduct process.

POLICY ON THE REPORTING OF CRIME

The University and the Department of Public Safety strongly encourage faculty, staff, students, and guests to report any potential crimes or suspicious activity promptly and accurately, including when the victim elects to or is unable to, make such a report. *The Department of Public Safety maintains a 24-hour dispatch center to answer all calls for assistance.*

REPORTING CRIMES AT THE WEST CHESTER CAMPUS

In cases where criminal activity is reported at the West Chester University's West Chester location, University police officers will respond and investigate. The incident may become a matter of public record. Information regarding all arrests of students made by university police for criminal violations on campus is forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct for review and potential action as appropriate under the Student Code of Conduct. Arrests of University students by municipal police agencies brought to the attention of the Department of Public Safety are also forwarded to the Office of Student Conduct. All students are held accountable for their behavior both on and off-campus property. If assistance is required from the West Chester Borough Police or West Goshen Police Departments, the West Chester Fire Department, or Good Fellowship Ambulance, the Department of Public Safety will contact the appropriate unit. If a sexual assault or rape should occur, staff on the scene, including the West Chester University Police Department, will provide the student with directions on how to obtain the services provided by the University.

REPORTING CRIMES AT THE GRADUATE CENTER LOCATION

THE GRADUATE CENTER

The Graduate Center campus community can report criminal activity, fires, or medical emergencies on the Graduate Center Campus by calling the West Goshen Township Police at 610-696-7400 or by dialing 911. The Chester County Department of Emergency Services would be contacted to dispatch Fire/Rescue/EMS services as required. Those who wish to report a crime but remain anonymous may contact the Campus Crime Tip Line at 610-436-3100.

EMERGENCIES OCCURRING ON WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY'S MAIN CAMPUS

Call 911

Contact the DPS Communications Center at **610-436-3311** or dial campus extension **3311**.

The dispatcher will need the following information:

- Your name
- The location of the emergency
- The nature of the emergency
- How many people are involved?

Or use any of the campus Emergency Phones located across campus. Simply push the button and they automatically dial the DPS Communications Center.

If you have downloaded the WCUSafe app, press the 'Mobile Blue Light' button located in the middle of the home screen on the app.

EMERGENCIES OCCURRING OFF-CAMPUS

Dial 911

The dispatcher will need the following information:

- Your name
- The location of the emergency
- The nature of the emergency
- How many people are involved?

The Dispatcher will then contact the appropriate personnel for response to the emergency. Please try and remain calm and stay on scene until the emergency responders arrive as they may need additional information from you.

Calling 911 will send you to the Chester County 911 Center, not Public Safety.

REPORTING CRIME TO CAMPUS SECURITY AUTHORITIES

The University encourages community members to promptly report all crimes and other emergencies directly to WCU Police at **610-436-3311** or by calling **911**. Nevertheless, the University also recognizes individuals may prefer to report incidents to individuals or University offices not Public Safety. The federal Jeanne Clery Act recognizes certain University officials as Campus Security Authorities (CSAs). The Clery Act places CSAs into four categories depending upon the function of their position: Those four categories are:

- A member of the campus police/security department. Example: University Police and Police Safety
- Individuals responsible for campus security in some capacity but not members of a campus police/security department. Example: an individual who is responsible for monitoring the entrance to university property.
- People or offices that are not members of a campus police/security department but are identified in policy as individuals to which students and employees can report criminal offenses to them or their office. Examples of such places at WCU are: The Office for Equal Opportunity and Compliance, Residence Life and Housing, and the Office of Student Conduct.
- An official of an institution with significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including but not limited to, student housing, student discipline, and campus judicial proceedings. Other examples of Campus Security Authorities at WCU are Athletic administrators, coaches, athletic Trainers, summer sports camp staff, Faculty advisors to student organizations, Resident Assistants, and Directors of Fraternity and Sorority Life

Individuals in positions whose function meets the definitions above are identified, notified, and trained as CSAs throughout the year.

REPORTS MADE TO PASTORAL OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

The Clery Act permits individuals working at West Chester University as pastoral or professional counselors an exemption from reporting crimes to law enforcement. Pastoral and Professional Counselors, when acting as such, are **not** considered a Campus Security Authority for Clery Act purposes and are not required to report crimes for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics. As a matter of policy, the professional counselors at West Chester University are encouraged, when they deem it appropriate, to inform people counseled of the procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis to the Department of Public Safety for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics or for evaluation of the issuance of a Timely Warning or Emergency Notification. Furthermore, when a professional counselor becomes aware of a threat either to a student themselves or to another student, staff or faculty member, the counselor will inform the Department of Public Safety immediately. If front desk staff or the case manager is given information of an imminent threat the staff will make sure one of us speaks with the student to do the assessment.

Pastoral and Professional Counselors

Pastoral Counselor – An employee of an institution who is associated with a religious order or denomination recognized by that religious order or denomination as someone who provides confidential counseling and who is functioning within the scope of that recognition as a pastoral counselor. West Chester University does not have any pastoral counselors on staff.

Professional Counselor – An employee of an institution whose official responsibilities include providing psychological counseling to members of the institution's community and who is functioning within the scope of his or her license or certification.

Reports of criminal activity brought to the attention of the Dean of Students, Residence Life and Housing Services, any student organization or activity advisor, athletic coaches, trainers, intramural sport advisors, and medical health professionals are required to be reported to the Department of Public Safety either by the victims or by the person receiving the report. Those reports, with personal identifiable information removed and converted to reportable crime statistics which appear in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (ASFSR) each year.

OTHER RESOURCES FOR REPORTING CRIME

For those reporting a criminal incident, whether a victim, witness, or third party, reports may be made to the following offices where further options will be discussed with the reporting party. It is helpful when community members immediately report crimes or emergencies to the Department of Public Safety and/or primary CSAs listed below for purposes of including them in the annual statistical disclosure and assessing them for issuing Timely Warning Notifications when deemed necessary. Besides the primary CSAs listed below, all Campus Security Authorities are trained to report crimes via the institution's reporting structure.

PERSONNEL TO WHOM AND LOCATIONS WHERE ONE CAN REPORT CRIME

WCU POLICE

Peoples Building
690 S Church St
610-436-3311 or 911

DR. LEAH TOBIN, DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Office of Residence Life and Housing Services
202 Lawrence Center
610-436-3307 or 610-436-3306
Housing@wcupa.edu

CHRIS BRENNER, ASSISTANT DEAN OF STUDENTS

Office of Student Conduct
200 Ruby Jones Hall
610-436-3511
studentconduct@wcupa.edu

TASHELL JENKINS, ESQ. TITLE IX COORDINATOR

Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
(for reporting sexual misconduct)
114 W Rosedale Avenue
tix@wcupa.edu
610-436-2433

WILLIAM HELZLSOUER

Associate Vice President
and Chief Human Resources Officer
610-436-3309
201 Carter Drive

AVAILABILITY OF CRIME STATISTICS

Crime statistics and arrest information for offenses occurring on West Chester's West Chester campus or any of West Chester's other locations are reported monthly to the Pennsylvania State Police for use in the Uniform Crime Report as required by state criminal history record retention laws. Those statistics are also reported via this Report and via the Annual Campus Safety Survey commissioned by the US Department of Education.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING

Q. Can my report be confidential?

A. If you are the victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the University system or the criminal justice system, you may still want to consider making a confidential report. You can do so by calling the campus crime tip line at 610-436-3100.

With your permission, a Department of Public Safety officer can file a report of the details of the incident without revealing your identity (except to the Title IX Coordinator in the event of reported sexual violence and other violations that may be sex- or gender-based). The purpose of a confidential report is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential while taking steps to enhance the future safety of yourself and others. With such information, West Chester University can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, employees, and visitors to determine where there is a pattern of crime regarding a particular location, method, or assailant and to alert the campus community to potential danger. Reports filed in this manner are counted and disclosed in the annual crime statistics for the institution.

Even if a student is a victim of a crime but does not wish to pursue criminal or student conduct violations, they are still encouraged to contact Student Affairs to file a confidential report. For sexual misconduct incidents, the Title IX office can be contacted to submit a report without notifying law enforcement.

However, the Department of Public Safety encourages accurate and prompt reporting of all crimes to the campus police or the appropriate municipal police agency, including when the victim elects to, or is unable to, make such a report. Doing so helps the Department accurately report crime statistics, determine whether crime patterns are present, and better protect the campus community from future criminal acts.

THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM

West Chester University has established a Threat Assessment Team to assist in addressing situations where individuals are displaying disruptive or threatening behaviors that potentially endanger their own or others' health and safety. It is the responsibility of faculty, staff, and students to immediately report any situation that could possibly result in harm to anyone at the University. In cases where a person may pose an immediate risk of violence to self or others, the Department of Public Safety should be contacted immediately at 610-436-3311 or by dialing 911 on any campus phone.

THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

When information is received about a potential threat of violence to the campus community, the information will be investigated, and a probability will be identified. It is understood that no one can assess a threat with 100 percent accuracy. The investigation will be conducted, and probabilities determined by the Threat Assessment Team. The Threat Assessment Team will consist of members with expertise in human resources and employee assistance programming, medical background, law enforcement and threat assessment, law enforcement tactical applications, psychology or counseling or writing interpretations, physical plant, and student concerns. Other individuals may be consulted as needed.

TIMELY WARNING NOTIFICATIONS AND EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

TIMELY WARNINGS

Certain crimes under the Clery Act may call for the issuing of a Timely Warning distributed to the campus community. Under the Clery Act, an institution is required to alert the campus community to certain crimes in a manner that is timely and will aid in the prevention of similar crimes.

Although the Clery Act does not define “timely”, the intent of a warning regarding the criminal incident(s) is to enable people to protect themselves. This means a warning should be issued as soon as pertinent information is available.

A campus-wide “Timely Warning” will be issued WHEN:

- A Clery Act crime is reported to any Campus Security Authority (CSA) or local police agency
- occurs on or within the University’s Clery geography. *Clery geography is defined as the core campus boundaries including university-owned or controlled property on campus, public property that is within or immediately adjacent to the campus, and in Clery defined non-campus properties; AND*
- represents a serious or continuing threat to students and employees.

Timely Warnings are typically issued for the following Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) / National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) crime classifications:

- Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter
- Aggravated Assault (cases involving assaults among known parties, such as two roommates fighting which results in an aggravated injury, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if the individual is believed to be an ongoing threat to the larger West Chester University Community).
- Robbery involving force or violence (cases including pickpocketing and purse snatching will typically not result in the issuance of a Timely Warning Notice but will be assessed on a case-by-case basis).
- Sexual Assault (*considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the facts of the case, when and where the incident occurred, when it was reported, and the amount of information known by the Director of Public Safety/ Chief of Police or their designee*). In cases involving sexual assault, they are often reported long after the incident occurred, thus there is no ability to distribute a Time Warning Notice to the community. All cases of sexual assault, including stranger and non-stranger/acquaintance cases, will be assessed for potential issuance of a Timely Warning Notice). *The name or names of victims of Sexual Assault are not published in a Timely Warning Notice.*
- Major incidents of Arson
- Other Clery crimes as determined necessary by the Director of Public Safety their designee in his/her absence.

Q. How is the decision made to issue a Timely Warning?

A. The responsibility for Timely Warning notices is shared between the Clery Compliance Officer (CCO) and the captain. When a crime is reported the Clery Compliance Officer, or the captain, will be contacted by the on-duty sergeant or the officer in charge. The CCO and the Captain will confer and the CCO will determine the necessity of a Timely Warning.

The CCO will draft a Timely Warning which will then be reviewed by the Chief of Police and senior police administration. Once the review is complete the CCO will send out the Timely Warning to the university community. At a minimum, the Timely Warning will be sent as an email and text message and be posted on the Public Safety website. If practicable and necessary a Timely Warning or Emergency Notification will be posted on doors of buildings, i.e. during summer where the majority of those on campus are not subscribed to WCU Alert.

If a crime occurs outside of the campus Clery geography but is close enough to campus it could be a continuing and ongoing threat to the university community, e.g. a rash of burglaries just off-campus in an area populated by students, police from that jurisdiction (West Goshen Police Township Police Department, West Chester Borough Police) will contact West Chester University Police Department dispatch informing them of the occurrence of the crime. In the alternative, West Chester University Police can hear police communications from West Goshen Police and West Chester Borough police and will contact the captain or the Clery Compliance Officer.

UNIVERSITY OBLIGATIONS REGARDING TIMELY WARNINGS AND SEXUAL ASSAULTS

Parties reporting Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and/or Stalking should be aware that under the Clery Act, the University must issue timely warnings for reported incidents that pose a serious or continuing threat of bodily harm or danger to members of the campus community. If a report of sexual misconduct discloses a serious or immediate threat to the campus community, the University will issue a timely notification to the community to protect the health or safety of the community. The timely notification will not include any identifying information about the Complainant. West Chester University will ensure that a victim’s name and other identifying information is not disclosed when such warnings are issued, while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions for themselves.

Timely Warning Notices will be distributed as soon as pertinent information is available, in a manner that withholds the names of victims as confidential, and with the goal of aiding in the prevention of similar occurrences. Timely Warning Notices will be issued to the campus community via email blast to all WCU-assigned email accounts.

Institutions are not required to issue a Timely Warning with respect to crimes reported to a pastoral or professional counselor.

West Chester University offers a text messaging subscription service (WCU ALERT) for all faculty, staff, and students to receive notification of major emergencies and timely warnings and strongly encourages subscribing to this important service.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Emergency notification is defined differently than a Timely Warning Notification. Emergency Notifications are issued in response to a “significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus.”

While it is impossible to predict every significant emergency or dangerous situation that may occur on campus, the types of incidents that may cause an immediate threat to the community (and therefore require an emergency notification) could include, but are not limited to:

An armed/ hostile intruder

Bomb/ explosive

Communicable disease outbreak

Terrorist incident

Civil unrest

Natural disaster

Hazardous materials incident

Structural fire

The procedures for sending Emergency Notifications are identical to the procedures used to send a Timely Warning.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMUNICATIONS

In the event of an emergency, West Chester University will initiate and provide, without delay, immediate notifications to the appropriate segment(s) of the University community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students, employee and visitors. After sending the message the Department of Public Safety will continue to provide follow-up information to the community as needed.

The Department of Public Safety staff is responsible for responding to reported emergencies and confirming the existence of an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the University community. The process for determining if an emergency exists is responding to reports made to the Department by its own staff or in conjunction with campus administrators, local first responders, and/ or the National Weather Service.

The University will, without delay, while considering the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system — unless issuing a notification will, in the professional judgment of the responsible authorities compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

When an emergency is confirmed Public Safety staff will use some or all the systems described below to communicate the threat to the University Community or to the appropriate segment of the community if the threat is limited to a particular building or segment of the population. Depending on the level of threat posed to the community the Clery Compliance Officer (who sends the notification) will consult with Public Safety administration to determine if the message needs to be segmented or not. Within the software used to send notifications, the University can send notifications to specific segments of the community.

When possible, the Department of Public and University Communications and Marketing will collaborate to determine the content of the message. Working, phrasing, and even descriptions will be worked on to ensure clarity and accuracy. The content of the message may differ based on the segment of the community the message targets. For example, messages to the Philadelphia Campus would be different from those that would be sent to staff and students on the West Chester campus.

Once the decision is made that an emergency exists and the community needs to be informed, the Clery Compliance Officer will send a message to the University community using the Omnilert System. Notifications can be issued by anyone authorized to use the Omnilert System, thus, a person other than the Clery Compliance Officer can and should (if the circumstances present themselves) send out the emergency notification.

Emergency notifications may be issued by some or all the following methods depending on the type of emergency, the University Alert System which contains the following types of communication: *text messaging, email blasts, WCU webpage, digital signage, television monitors, social media, external speaker broadcasts, and in-person notifications*, this includes posting the warning by hand on the doors of University buildings

Should any of these systems fail or the University deems it appropriate, in-person communication may be used to communicate an emergency. Regarding emergency notifications, an approved statement to news assignment desks in the Philadelphia area, including 6ABC Action News, PHL17, CBS3 Eyewitness News, NBC10, FOX 29.

Initial emergency communications will be sent immediately and will convey only the most critical information. Follow-up information and details will be carried on the University’s homepage, which will be updated as circumstances dictate.

POST EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

The University will issue follow-up messages and an “all clear” message to convey the University’s return to normal operations to all faculty, staff, and students via University-assigned email accounts, the West Chester University homepage, and text messages to WCU Alert subscribers. Details regarding the incident will be communicated on the University’s homepage.

The local news media may be utilized to disseminate emergency information to members of the larger community, including neighbors, parents, and other interested parties. The larger community can also access emergency information via the West Chester University homepage.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Q: When I receive an emergency message what will it contain?

A: In an emergency, the University will communicate key information as quickly and to as many people as possible. Key information will include: the type of incident, the location of the incident, if known, and what the reader’s response should be (evacuate, stay clear of the area, or shelter in place).

If you are advised to evacuate a building either by the activation of the fire alarm system or verbally by Public Safety or other Building Administrators, please evacuate immediately. Evacuate from below level and upper floors by using designated stairways; do not use elevators. If you have special assistance needs, become familiar with the closest “Area of Rescue Assistance” and someone will help you to evacuate. If possible, to do so safely, take your belongings with you and do not return to the building once you have left for any reason.

If you are the first to recognize a fire situation, activate the alarm, evacuate to a safe location using the nearest exit, and notify the Department of Public Safety 610-436- 3311 or dial 911.

1. Remain Calm.
2. Do not use Elevators — use the stairs.
3. Assist the physically impaired. If they are unable to exit without using an elevator, secure a safe location near a stairwell, and immediately inform the Department of Public Safety or the responding Fire Dept. of the individual’s location.
4. Proceed to a clear area at least 150 feet from the building. Keep all walkways clear for emergency vehicles.
5. Make sure all personnel are out of the building.
6. Do not re-enter the building.]

West Chester University automatically enrolls all students in a text messaging subscription (WCU ALERT) whereby all students, regardless of campus receive notification of major emergencies and timely warnings/ Employees are automatically enrolled. Students and employees (faculty and staff) can opt out of receiving messages by logging into Omnilert (the platform powering WCUALERT) and changing their preferences (add/remove phone or email).]

WCU ALERT sends direct text messages of WCU announcements including on-campus emergencies, inclement weather cancellations, delayed openings, university closings and periodic test messages. It is a free service to students, faculty, and staff (standard text messaging rates may apply). *Parents and guardians may receive WCU Alert messages by subscribing to the service.*

Members of the university community who do not have a WCU email address can also sign up to receive alerts. Search online by typing WCU Alert, click the link, scroll to the bottom of the page and click the purple ‘Non-WCU User Login’ button. That will take you to a page at the top of which is a link entitled, ‘Sign Up’. From there follow the prompts to complete the set-up.

WCU ALERT is one of many emergency communication components at West Chester University. In an emergency, West Chester University will communicate key information as quickly and to as many people as possible. Emergency communication components include the WCU Homepage (primary source), mass emails, digital signage, text messages via WCU Alert, and the external notification system.

The Department of Public Safety encourages faculty, staff and students to sign up for county alerts at ReadyChesCo at <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085612335/login>.

By signing up for alerts faculty, staff, and students can be immediately informed of emergency events occurring in Chester County where West Chester University is located.

After leaving the building, occupants will be instructed by Public Safety or Building Administrators where the designated gathering place will be located. Please remain at the evacuation area unless it is unsafe to do so, or you are instructed to re-enter the building.

If there is a suspected or confirmed hazard outside of a building, occupants may be required to shelter in place. Occupants may be instructed to move from their current location to other areas inside of a building, depending on the type of hazard. Once sheltered, please remain in that area unless it is unsafe to do so or you have been instructed to re-locate.

Q: When will I know the emergency is over?

A: The University will issue an All-Clear message to convey the University's return to normal operations via the primary communication methods.

CAMPUS POLICIES REGARDING EVACUATIONS

West Chester University encourages all staff, faculty, and students to familiarize themselves with evacuation plans posted in University buildings. In nearly every classroom on campus, a map is posted next to the door detailing the classroom's location and the pathway to follow in the event of an evacuation.

The Department of Public Safety strongly encourages all faculty, staff, and students to practice situational awareness and orient themselves in any space on campus. Orienting means upon entering a space looking to where exits or what points of egress may be. This may include windows or other means of egress, not standard doors.

GENERAL BUILDING EVACUATION

When a building is being evacuated use the designated stairwells that can be found on maps located in each classroom or floor map. In newer buildings, signage in the stairwells will inform you if the stairwell has ground-floor access.

If possible, to do so safely, take your belongings with you. Do not return to the building once you have left. ***In some situations, you may not have time to collect your belongings. Seconds count!! Evacuate the building as quickly as safely as possible. You can always come back for your belongings.***

For individuals with special assistance needs, become familiar with the closest area of rescue assistance which is an area where those unable to use stairs may remain temporarily in safety to await further assistance during an emergency evacuation. Prepare for an emergency ahead of time by instructing a classmate, instructor, supervisor, or co-worker on how you may need assistance in any emergency. Be aware of the location of the nearest stairwell and area of rescue assistance. If you will be working in an isolated area of the building, inform another student, staff member, or faculty member of your location. For more information regarding evacuating with disabilities visit the [Evacuation Procedures for Persons with Disabilities](#) tab on the WCU Public Safety page.

HAZARDS OUTSIDE BUILDINGS

If there is a suspected or confirmed hazard outside of a building, occupants may be required to shelter in place. Occupants may be instructed to move from their current location to other areas inside

of a building, depending on the type of hazard. Once sheltered, please remain in that area unless it is unsafe to do so, or you have been instructed to relocate.

EVACUATION PROCEDURES FOR FIRES, BOMB THREATS AND CHEMICAL SPILLS

Fires

Be aware of the location of fire alarms, evacuation routes, and fire extinguishers. Always treat fire alarm activation as though the threat of fire is real. Once a fire is observed or the smell of smoke is detected, activate the fire alarm system and evacuate the building immediately. ***Do not remain in your space until the fire department arrives- evacuate!***

Bomb Threats

If you observe a potential bomb or other suspicious object, do not attempt to handle or move it yourself. Clear the area immediately and then contact Public Safety at 610-436-3311. The evacuation should be a minimum of 500 feet from the building. Do not return to the affected building until authorized to do so by Public Safety.

DO NOT use the fire alarm system to evacuate the building. Building Administrators along with Public Safety should calmly go from room to room to announce the evacuation and assist those with special needs.

If you receive a threat by mail, contact Public Safety immediately. Do not handle the envelope or container more than is necessary.

Campus Violence/ Active Shooter

If you are involved in a situation where someone in the area has started shooting or committed some other act of violence; the Department of Public Safety recommends you take the following steps depending on your location. Dial 911 instead of 610-436-3311.

If the Violence Is Occurring Inside a Building

If Exiting the Building is Possible

Exit the building immediately and:

1. Notify anyone you may encounter to exit the building immediately.
2. Get to a safe location well away from where the activity is occurring.
3. Call 911 as soon as possible.
4. Give the Dispatcher the following information:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Location of the incident (be as specific as possible)
 - c. Number of shooters (if known)
 - d. Identification of shooter (if known)
 - e. Number of persons who may be involved
 - f. Your location
5. If you see police or emergency personnel while evaluating DO NOT stop them, instead, relay any information you may have regarding the incident, e.g., where the shooter is located; if known, what the shooter is wearing, what type of weapons the shooter has. GET TO A SAFE LOCATION.

If Exiting the Building is Not Possible

Go to the nearest room or office and:

1. Close and lock the door.
2. Cover the door windows.
3. Keep quiet and act as if no one is in the room.
4. Using whatever objects you can find (furniture, utility cords, desks, tables) you can find in the room barricading the door.
5. DO NOT answer the door.
6. Call **911** as soon as possible.
7. Give the Dispatcher the following information:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Your location (be as specific as possible)
 - c. Number of shooters (if known)
 - d. Identification of shooter (if known)
 - e. Number of people who may be involved.

Wait for Public Safety to secure the area and assist you out of the building.

If the Violence Is Occurring Outside a Building

1. If you are inside, go to the nearest room and lock yourself inside.
2. Avoid being near the door or windows.
3. Using whatever objects you can find (furniture, utility cords, desks, tables) you can find in the room barricade the door in case the shooter enters the building.
4. Call 911 as soon as possible.
5. Give the Dispatcher the following information:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Your location (be as specific as possible)
 - c. Number of shooters (if known)
 - d. Identification of shooter (if known)
 - e. Number of persons who may be involved

For more information on Active Shooter Response visit the Classroom Safety FAQ document by clicking [here](#).

How You Will Know to “Shelter-in-Place”

A shelter-in-place notification may come from several sources, Department of Public Safety (DPS), Residence Life and Housing Staff members, other University employees, Local police departments, or other authorities utilizing the University’s emergency communications tools.

HOW TO “SHELTER-IN-PLACE”

No matter where you are, the basic steps of shelter-in-place will generally remain the same. Should the need ever arise, follow these steps, unless instructed otherwise by local emergency personnel:

1. If you are inside, stay where you are. Collect any emergency shelter-in-place supplies and a telephone to be used in case of emergency. If you are outdoors, proceed into the closest building quickly or follow instructions from emergency personnel on the scene.
2. Locate a room to shelter inside. It should be:
 - An interior room;
 - Above ground level; and
 - Without windows or with the least number of windows. If there is a large group of people inside a particular building, several rooms may be necessary.
3. Shut and lock all windows (tighter seal) and close exterior doors.
4. *If in an active shooter incident on campus barricade the door with items in the room such as furniture, tables, desk, and utility cords (to secure the door if it opens outward)*
5. Turn off air conditioners, heaters, and fans.
6. Close vents to ventilation systems as you are able. (University staff will turn off the ventilation as quickly as possible.)
7. Make a list of the people with you and ask someone (hall staff, faculty, or other staff) to call the list into DPS so they know where you are sheltering. If only students are present, one of the students should call in the list.
8. Turn on a radio or TV and listen for further instructions.
9. Make yourself comfortable.]

The supplement to the University’s Emergency Operations Plan can be found [here](#).

Q: How do I assist those who may have disabilities?

A: Please become familiar with escape routes and Area of Rescue Assistance locations in the buildings that you may be using during your time at the University. An Area of Rescue Assistance is an area where people who are unable to use stairs may remain temporarily in safety to await further assistance during an emergency evacuation.

TRAINING AND TESTING PROCEDURES

Testing the procedures by which the campus is alerted to emergencies, including Timely Warnings is critical for effective communication. On the first Thursday of every month, the Timely Warning and Emergency Notification systems are tested internally. A test message is sent to a group of individuals on campus who then report if the message has been received. On a wider scale, the campus emergency notifications systems are tested annually.

ANNUAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

The Annual Emergency Preparedness Exercise takes place each year in the fall and the spring.

The objective of this exercise is:

- Determine the response of the residents to an emergency evacuation of their building.
- Determine the ability of Residence Life Staff to coordinate the evacuation and provide accountability of their residents.
- Determine the resources necessary to assist with an orderly evacuation of the residential quad.
- Determine if Residence Life staff utilized the designated gathering points for their buildings.
- Determine the strategies to be used by Public Safety to relocate mass residential populations based on the potential effects of the incident causing the mass evacuation.

FIRE EVACUATION DRILLS

Fire evacuation drills are conducted on every other month basis in each residence hall when they are occupied (late August/December) and at least twice per year in all other buildings. The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of a fire or other emergency. During the drill, occupants practice drill procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and the sound of the fire alarm.

In addition to educating the occupants of each building about the evacuation procedures during the drills, the process also provides the University an opportunity to test the operation of fire alarm system components.

Residence Life Staff members are trained in evacuation procedures and act as an ongoing resource for the students living in residential facilities. The Department of Environmental Health and Safety and the Department of Public Safety coordinate efforts to conduct numerous announced and unannounced drills and exercises (tests) each year. Follow-through activities designed for the assessment and evaluation of emergency plans and capabilities are also completed. Each test is documented and includes a description of the exercise, the date and time of the exercise, and whether it was announced or unannounced.

Department of Public Safety administrators, supervisors, and officers have received training in the Incident Command System and responding to critical incidents on campus. When a serious incident occurs that causes an immediate threat to the campus, the first responders to the scene are usually Department of Public Safety officers. Depending on the nature of the incident, other local, state, or federal response agencies could also be involved in the response and management of the incident.

General information about the emergency response and evacuation procedures for West Chester University is publicized via email at least once each year in conjunction with a test (exercise and drill) that meets all the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act as part of the institution's Clery Act compliance efforts and that information is available on the West Chester University Department of Public Safety web site: www.wcupa.edu/dps

As mentioned above the emergency notification system at West Chester is an opt-out system whereby students, staff, and faculty are automatically enrolled and can then opt out of the notification system.

CAMPUS EVACUATIONS

Through the twice-annual test of the emergency evacuation, and procedures through our emergency preparedness exercise students and employees learn the locations of the emergency exits in the buildings and are provided guidance about the direction they should travel when exiting each facility for a short-term building evacuation. The Department of Public Safety does not tell building occupants in advance about the designated locations for long-term evacuations because those decisions are affected by time of day, and the location of the building being evacuated. The availability of the various designated emergency gathering locations on campus, and other factors such as the location and nature of the threat. In both cases, The Department of Public Safety staff on the scene will communicate information to students regarding the developing situation or any evacuation status changes.

The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of a fire or other emergency. At West Chester University, evacuation drills are used to educate and train occupants on fire safety issues specific to their building. During the drill, occupants 'practice' drill procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and the sound of the fire alarm. More information on campus evacuation can be found at the [Emergency Management](#) link on the Department of Public Safety website.

SECURITY AND ACCESS TO CAMPUS FACILITIES

The Police Division of the Department of Public Safety conducts routine patrols and property checks of all campus buildings to evaluate and monitor security-related matters. These patrols include all on-campus student housing facilities.

SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS IN THE MAINTENANCE OF CAMPUS FACILITIES

University facilities and campus outdoor lighting are maintained to minimize hazardous conditions. Malfunctioning lighting and other unsafe conditions are reported to Facilities Management for repair or correction. Parking lots and pathways are illuminated on campus. In addition, the Department of Public Safety completes a monthly lighting and physical security report, which is submitted to the Facilities Management Department. The Grounds Maintenance department ensures there are no security concerns caused by overgrowth or decay of vegetation and monitors trees, shrubs, bushes, and other landscaping. Other members of the University community are helpful when they report equipment problems to the Department of Public Safety (610-436-3311) or the Facilities Management Department (610-436-2444).

A Security Officer is responsible for conducting door security checks throughout the week for all academic and administrative buildings on the Main campus. Security Officers check exterior doors on residential facilities daily. Any exterior doors that are found to be malfunctioning are submitted for service daily to Facilities Management.

Q: What is the policy regarding access to University facilities and programs by students, employees, guests, and other individuals?

A: Most University facilities are open to the public during normal business hours (8:00 AM to 4:30 pm) and some include evening

hours. All individuals accessing University facilities must adhere to all federal and state laws, as well as all University policies. All administrative and academic buildings on the Main Campus are opened at approved times and secured by Public Safety upon the completion of their scheduled use. Prior to scheduling any extra-curricular event, the University must approve the use of the facility. When administrative and academic buildings are secure, access is restricted to authorized individuals using card access or written authorization from the building administrator.

All Faculty, staff, and Students are expected to carry their WCU Ram Card with them at all times. The University secures its buildings through its card access system. Card access is the only way to enter buildings. It is critical, therefore, that all members of the university community carry their ID with them.

Q: What is the access policy for West Chester's residence halls?

A: Residence hall access is restricted 24 hours a day by the RamCard access system. Residents are provided access to the hall they live in via their access card at the designated entrances. Guests are given access to the building by the resident they are visiting, and the resident is responsible for the guest while the guest is in the building. All University employees, contractors, and vendors are required to display University identification when they are in an occupied residence hall.

LIVING AT WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY

WCU-managed on-campus housing consists of four residence halls and two apartment complexes. While most traditional residence hall rooms are double occupancy, some single rooms are available under specific circumstances. All residence halls house both male and female students. There is an eleven-building apartment complex owned by the University located on South Campus and a three-building apartment complex on North Campus.

Affiliated housing is the other category of on-campus housing. These facilities are available to University students but are operated by University Student Housing, a private management company. The Affiliated Housing facilities include four suite-style buildings and two apartment complexes. There is no on-campus married student housing provided by the University or Affiliated Housing.

A full description of Residence Life policies can be found in the [Residential Living Policy and Procedure Manual](#).

STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES IN OTHER LOCATIONS

There are no residential facilities at the Graduate Center, the Exton Campus, or the Philadelphia location

SECURITY OF STUDENT-HOUSING FACILITIES

All exterior doors to the residence halls are locked 24 hours a day. The main entrances to each building are equipped with electronic card readers, which residents use to gain access to the building. Security access to these residence halls is contained on these cards. All other entrances are alarmed and set for delayed egress, which will deny the ability to exit the building for 15 seconds while an alarm sounds unless the fire alarm has released the doors. Only residents can provide access to the building for their guests, and applicable guest policies must be followed. Room doors in the residence halls are equipped with either a standard lock and key system or a card key system. All resident rooms are also equipped with a one-way peephole for identification purposes prior to admission. The windows are equipped with screens and will lock in place.

RESIDENCE LIFE STAFF

Area coordinators (ACs), Graduate Hall Directors (GHDs) and Resident Assistants (RAs) staff the living areas of the residence halls.

Guest Sign-In procedure

Q: How do I sign in a guest to my residence hall

A: To enter a residence hall students must show their Ram E-Card. Their guests must have a photo ID. All guests entering a residence hall must possess and display one of the following forms of photo identification: listed below. Any guest not physically having the proper (valid,

unexpired) form of identification will not be permitted access. Acceptable photo identification forms are limited to:

- Valid government-issued identification cards such as driver's license, military
- ID, state ID, or passport.
- West Chester University Ram-E card.

Failure to adhere to sign-in/sign-out policies will result in loss of guest privileges.

In Fall 2024 the Security Division of the Department of Public Safety will begin using Splan, an electronic visitor management system that electronically registers guests at a kiosk. The use of an electronic registration system means security staff have the most accurate picture of who is in a residence hall at any given time and how many individuals are in a residence hall.

***SPLAN Visitor** is an electronic application to manage WCU Residence Hall visitors which requires Registration for checking in and checking out of any WCU Residence Halls.

ESCORT-CHECK IN – A TWO STEP PROCESS;

a. New Registration (Step1) - The Resident and their Visitor go to the Residence Hall kiosk to register the visitor with correct form of ID

(WCU ID, Current Driver's License). Once the visitor is registered the kiosk will print out a visitor pass which the visitor will maintain throughout their visit. (Overnight guests will have to reregister the following day to update their pass and continue their visitation).

b. The Visitor (Step 2) at the end of their visit, will stop at the Residence Hall kiosk and scan out with their visitor badge to end their visit (if the visitor is having trouble scanning out, they can also scan out manually at the kiosk). Each resident per university protocol is allowed 2 visitors. If the current visitor does not sign out from their visit, the resident now can only sign-in one other visitor until the prior visitor is signed out. A notification is sent to the resident about the visitor not signing out

***Security Officers manage visitor registrations which allows check-in and manual check out if needed.]**

Q: When can my guests visit me?

A: Students must establish and regulate room visitation hours with their roommates. **Only with prior consent from a roommate or roommates are guests allowed in residence halls, suites, and apartments. The rights of the roommate take precedence in issues involving a guest.** Patterns of visitation that interfere with the rights, privileges, or privacy of any resident student will not be tolerated and may subject the host disciplinary action under the Code of Student Conduct

Q: What happens if my guest commits a violation of the Student Code of Conduct while they're visiting me?

A: **You** will be held accountable under the Student Code of Conduct for violations committed by your guest.

Q: Can my younger sibling/ friend who is under 18 visit me?

A: All visitors under the age of 18 who are not currently enrolled at West Chester University are not permitted to enter the residence hall or stay overnight unless taking part in a recognized university special event or are at the campus at the behest of the University.

The guest policy can be located by visiting the [WCU Housing and Move-in FAQs](#) page and clicking on the Visitation/Guest Policy Questions tab.

HOUSING ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR CHANGES

Housing Assignments are initially made for an entire academic year. Returning students apply for university-owned housing during the first half of the spring semester of the preceding year and receive their assignments by mid-March. Assignment processes for Affiliated Housing begin late in the fall semester. Both first year and transfer students are accepted as "resident" or "commuter" students through the Office of Admissions. Those who plan to live on campus are notified of their assignments in early August prior to their arrival.

The housing application includes a section for students to indicate their personal preferences regarding quiet hours smoking and gender non-conforming (although all University housing facilities are smoke-free). These preferences are met whenever possible. Room changes are permitted for all residents during the second week of each semester if approved by the Graduate Hall Director (GHD) or the facility. Reassignment will be contingent on the availability

of space. The GHD of the hall or complex handles any extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Room change requests are dependent on the availability of space in the residence halls and apartments. Occasionally, urgent room change requests are granted. If you feel that your situation is urgent, make an appointment with your Resident Director or Graduate Hall Director to discuss your concerns.

Room changes without RD/GHD approval are NOT permitted. All room changes need to follow proper procedure and must be conducted during the room change period at the beginning of each semester or between semesters. Any student who changes rooms or apartments without first obtaining the written approval of the Resident Director/Graduate Hall Director will immediately be moved back into the originally assigned room or apartment and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Housing During Holidays and between Terms

During the time residence halls are vacated by residents (semester break, summer break), they are locked and secured. Generally, one traditional residence hall, as well as one affiliated building and all apartment complexes, remain open for use by international students and students demonstrating a particular need to stay on campus. During these low occupancy periods, entrance to the occupied residence halls is restricted via the card access system to only those students approved to stay on campus. Security officers patrol the buildings during these periods.

Missing Student Protocol

The Graduate Center, Exton location and the Philadelphia locations do not have residential facilities, thus those locations are not required to have missing student protocols.

The missing student protocol applies only to students living on West Chester University's West Chester campus in WCU-managed or USH affiliated housing.

Students, employees, or other people, who believe or have knowledge that a student who resides in on-campus housing is suspected missing must immediately notify the Department of Public Safety at 610-436- 3311. In other words, there is no minimum length of time to make a missing student report. Notification that a resident student is missing is required within 24 hours of the time the student is determined to be missing. The Department of Public Safety will conduct a timely investigation in accordance with the departmental policy regarding missing person investigations. The police investigation will follow specific steps that are outlined by Pennsylvania Title 18 Section 2908(a) Missing Children and 42 U.S.C. 5779(a) Section 3701(a) Suzanne's Law. Students are advised that, for students who are under the age of 18 and not emancipated, the University must notify a custodial parent or guardian within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing, students are also advised that this notification occurs in addition to notifying any additional contact person designated by the student.

West Chester University annually provides all resident students the annual option to register a contact person(s) who can be notified by the Institution should the student be reported missing. The University strongly encourages all resident students to identify a “missing person” contact, which is in addition to any general emergency contact information already provided. Should the student not formally declare a separate missing person contact, the emergency contact on record will be notified. This “missing person” contact(s) should be registered with the Office of Residence Life and Housing in the Lawrence Center. Students are advised that the “missing person” contact information will be kept confidential and will be accessible only to authorized campus officials and law enforcement officials and that it may not be disclosed outside of the missing person investigation.

If members of the WCU community believe that a student has been missing for 24 hours, it is critical that they report that information to the Department of Public Safety by calling (610-436-3311). Should a resident student be determined to be missing for 24 hours, the contact person(s) provided by the student will be notified within 24 hours by University officials. If multiple contacts are requested by the student, then all contacts will be notified even if the first contact reports the student is not missing.

This notification process will continue until the student in question is in direct contact with the Institution and confirms he or she is safe. The official making the contacts will document these notifications, including those that are unsuccessful.

As part of the investigation, the Department of Public Safety within 24 hours will notify the parent or guardian of any missing person who is under the age of 18 years old who has not been emancipated *and any other designated contact person within 24 hours of determining they have been missing for 24 hours.*

This notification will occur no later than 24 hours following the determination that the student is missing. If the missing person is emancipated or over the age of 18 years old, the Department will notify the contact provided and not the parent or guardian unless that person has been designated as the “missing person” contact. Regardless of whether the student has identified a contact person, is above the age of 18, or is an emancipated minor, the Department of Public Safety will inform the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction that the student is missing within 24 hours.

Students are advised that, for all missing students, once the determination has been made that a student living on campus is missing, the Department of Public Safety will notify the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours, unless the local law enforcement agency made the determination that the student is missing.

CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

West Chester University offers several crime prevention and security awareness programs for students and employees. During the 2023-2024 academic year, WCU offered 10 crime prevention and security awareness programs. Topics such as personal safety, residence hall security, drug and alcohol abuse awareness and sexual assault prevention are some examples of programs offered during the prior academic year.

A common theme of all programs is to encourage students and employees to be aware of their responsibility for their own. These programs are offered by request. As students prepare to come to

West Chester upon their arrival on campus the Office of Residence Life and Housing Assignments along with University Student Housing and The Department of Public Safety provide information on personal safety and residence hall security. Programs include:

R.A.D. (RAPE AGGRESSION DEFENSE).

The R.A.D. Systems of Self-Defense offers defense education programs for men and women. Each of these programs includes educational components comprised of lecture, discussion, and physical resistive strategies, all of which are facilitated by certified R.A.D. Instructors. WCU R.A.D. Instructors can also provide 1–2-hour seminar presentations on personal safety and awareness for those who are interested in learning more about reducing their risk of victimization, but who may not be able to commit to the time required for a complete course. For more information about R.A.D. Systems self-defense education at WCU contact RAD@wcupa.edu.

PHYSICAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN

The cornerstone of R.A.D. Systems programming, this system of realistic defense will provide the student with the knowledge to make an educated decision about resistance. R.A.D. Systems operate on the premise that a spontaneous violent attack will stimulate a natural desire to resist on the part of the victim (supported by research). This course will educate the students about Risk Reduction Strategies and the “Fight or Flight Syndrome,” while showing them that enhancing their option of physical defense is not only prudent, but a necessity. Participants will learn about personal weapons, vulnerable locations postures in conflict and the many options they have available to employ if engaged in an aggressive encounter. This program has a minimum of 10 hours of training and will be 12 hours with simulation.

ASD - ADVANCED SELF DEFENSE

This system of defense builds upon techniques and strategies learned in the Basic Physical Defense class. This program covers more prone defense strategies and multiple subject encounters. Participants must have already completed the Basic Physical Defense course prior to taking Advanced Self-Defense.

PHYSICAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS FOR MEN

Resisting Aggression is a choice. Students in this course are responsible for how they respond to any event in their life. You will be asked to raise your awareness of aggressive behavior, to recognize how aggressive behavior impacts your life, take steps to avoid aggressive behavior, and look at how you can be part of reducing aggression and violence. In a small number of incidents, physical confrontation may be unavoidable. Our program provides participants with realistic strategies when forced into a physical confrontation. Resisting Aggression with Defense is designed to empower faculty, staff, and students to make different decisions when confronted with aggressive behavior. This program has a minimum of 10 hours of training and will be 12 hours with simulation.

A.L.I.C.E.

ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) is an options-based strategy to survive violent critical incidents. These incidents include people with guns, knives, blunt objects, vehicles, or anything else that could be used as a weapon. Plans can fail so that is why West Chester University Police teach an options-based strategy. Instead of handing every person a cookie-cutter plan to shut off the lights and hide in a corner, ALICE offers each person choices to have at their disposal if the unthinkable occurs.

Because of the high importance of this training, WCUPD offers it for **free** to anyone associated with West Chester University. If you would like to begin talks with an ALICE instructor about getting you or a group signed up for this potentially life-saving training, email ALICE@wcupa.edu and an instructor will be in contact.

Call out [During 2024 the A.L.I.C.E. certified trainers at West Chester University offered 11 A.L.I.C.E. trainings including staff from Residence Life, Student Recreation, Sykes Union, library staff, and Aramark in the Commons Dining Hall among others.] Since its inception on campus WCU A.L.I.C.E. instructors have provided training to nearly 1000 members of the campus community in various departments and divisions.]

FLOOR MEETINGS AND HALL MEETINGS

At the beginning of the fall semester, as new students arrive on campus the Department of Public Safety, in conjunction with the Office of Residence Life attends and presents at floor meetings educating the newest residents on campus about campus and residence hall safety.

WELCOME WEEK AND ORIENTATION

During Orientation throughout the summer and during Welcome Week the Department of Public Safety, working with the Office of New Student Programs puts on programming for new student and their parents explaining various features and aspects of campus safety and general crime prevention while at WCU.



WCU Safe is the official safety app of West Chester University. It is the only app that integrates with WCU's safety and security systems. The Department of Public Safety has worked to develop a unique app that provides students, faculty, and staff with added safety on the WCU campus. The app will send you important safety alerts and provide instant access to campus safety resources.



FEATURES OF WCU SAFE APP

- **Emergency Contacts:** Contact the correct services for the WCU area in case of an emergency or a non-emergency concern.
- **Virtual Walk Home:** Allow Campus Security to monitor a user's walk. If a user feels unsafe when walking on campus, they can request a Virtual Walk Home and a dispatcher on the other end will monitor their journey until they reach their destination.
- **Public Safety Escort:** This walking escort service is provided to students, faculty, and staff from one on-campus location to another.
- **Friend Walk:** Send your location to a friend through email or SMS on your device. Once the friend accepts the Friend Walk request, the user picks their destination and their friend tracks their location in real-time; they can keep an eye on them to make sure they make it safely to their destination.
- **Emergency Plans:** Campus emergency documentation that can prepare you for disasters or emergencies. This can be accessed even when users aren't connected to Wi-Fi or cellular data.
- **Panic Button / Mobile Bluelight:** Send your location to WCU security in real-time in case of a crisis.
- **Support Resources:** Access support resources in one convenient app to enjoy a successful experience at WCU.
- **Safety Notifications:** Receive instant notifications and instructions from WCU safety when on-campus emergencies occur.

Regular inspections are performed in buildings and EHS monitors all adverse environmental exposures. The department is here as a service and support unit within Human Resources and acts as the liaison for the university with regulatory agencies in the fields of occupational and environmental health and safety. For more information about EHS at West Chester University please visit the [Environmental Health and Safety website](#).

EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS

As part of the pre-employment process, Human Resources conducts background checks in the form of specific criminal and consumer reporting verifications for all employee recruitments except for work-study students. Conviction of a criminal offense does not bar one from employment in all cases. Each case is considered individually on its merits. If the University administration discovers that a current employee has been convicted of a criminal offense, the University reserves the right to review the conviction in relation to the employee's current position and, if warranted, act to either reassign or dismiss the employee.

The West Chester University policy is available online at the following website: [Background Clearances and Reporting Requirements](#)

STUDENTS WITH PRIOR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

West Chester University of Pennsylvania has determined that all applicants for admissions or individuals intending to take classes non-degree must disclose information regarding any current disciplinary proceeding, disciplinary suspension, or dismissal imposed by other higher education institutions. The university will not necessarily deny admission to the university in general or a particular academic program or to housing because of a disciplinary issue. Determinations by the Discipline Review Committee as to the imposition of conditions will be based upon the nature and severity of the offense(s); the period that has elapsed between the incident(s); the completion of discipline, if applicable; whether the applicant has additional incidents of misconduct; and the extent to which the conduct would be relevant to the student's participation in the University community.

STUDENTS WITH CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS LIVING IN UNIVERSITY HOUSING

If a student has a prior criminal conviction and applies to live in on-campus housing the conviction, standing alone, will not bar a student from living in on-campus housing. However, a criminal conviction will be reviewed by the Housing Review Committee and a determination of suitability for living in on-campus housing will be made on a case-by-case basis.

MEGAN'S LAW INFORMATION AND CRIMINAL RECORDS

The federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, enacted on October 28, 2000, requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. The Act also requires sex offenders already required to register in a State to provide notice, as required under State law, of each institution of higher education in that State

at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, volunteers services, or is a student.

A list of all registered sex offenders living in the West Chester area is available at: www.pameganslaw.state.pa.us/

2024 WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act mandates how crime statistics are collected and the format in which the statistics shall be published. West Chester University discloses its annual security report statistics for the three most recent calendar years (2022, 2023, and 2024) concerning the number of Clery reportable crimes occurring within Clery-reportable geography. In addition to incidents reported to the West Chester University Department of Public Safety, statistics include offenses that were reported to the West Chester Borough Police and West Goshen Township Police and to West Chester University staff having significant responsibility for student and campus activities, i.e., Campus Security Authority. Officials and offices on campus who have contributed statistical information include, but are not limited to, the Office of the Dean of Students; faculty advisors to student groups; residence life staff; athletic administrators, coaches, and trainers; student health personnel; subcontracted security guards; and student conduct staff. University counselors may voluntarily provide nonidentifying information on crimes reported to them for inclusion in the yearly statistics.

CLERY GEOGRAPHY

The Clery Act contains three defined areas that are collectively known as an institution's Clery geography. Only incidents occurring in these defined spaces are considered "reportable" under the Clery Act.

- **On-campus:** (1) 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 (2) Any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified in paragraph (1), that is owned or controlled by another person, is frequently used by students, and supports institutional purposes, i.e. a food or retail vendor).

For West Chester University, this definition applies to all University-owned or controlled facilities and property at the West Chester campus, Graduate Center location, and Exton location. This includes affiliated student housing on campus owned by the WCU Foundation and operated by University Student Housing as well as the building and property owned by the Foundation located at 202 Carter Drive in West Goshen Township. All parking facilities located on campus will be included as "On Campus." All crimes that were reported as occurring in any of these residential facilities will be a sub-set of "On Campus."

- **On-campus student housing facility:** Any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered an on-campus student housing facility. The on-campus Student Housing category is also a subset of the

On-campus category.

- **Non-campus Building or Property:** (1) Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution (i.e., privately owned fraternity); or (2) 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.
- *For this definition of non-campus, houses located at 614 South Walnut Street and 626 South High Street that are owned by their respective organizations in the Borough of West Chester would be included as "Non-Campus." Additionally, spaces on the Marple Campus of Delaware Community College used in support of the B.S. in Management degree through WCU will be designated as non-campus.*
- **Public Property:** All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.
- For West Chester University, all streets, alleyways, sidewalks, and parks directly adjacent to campus or bisecting campus will be included as "Public Property."

STATISTICS FOR INCIDENTS REPORTED ON CAMPUS.

Statistics for on-campus properties include all incidents reported to the University's Department of Public Safety or a campus security authority that occurred in any building or property owned or controlled by the institution, located within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area, and are used to meet or support the educational purposes of the institution. These statistics also include all residential facilities on campus, whether they are owned and operated by the University or by a private management company.

STATISTICS FOR INCIDENTS IN ON-CAMPUS RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES.

Statistics for residential facilities include all incidents reported to the University's Department of Public Safety or a campus security authority that occurred in a student residential facility located on the main campus, whether the building is owned and operated by the institution or by a private management company. These numbers are also included in the on-campus property statistics.

STATISTICS FOR INCIDENTS REPORTED ON NON-CAMPUS PROPERTIES.

Statistics for non-campus properties include all incidents known to the University that are reported to local municipal police agencies or campus security authorities that occur on property owned or controlled by West Chester University, i.e. hotel rooms during university-sponsored trips. Non-campus property also includes property owned or controlled by a recognized student organization. This includes, but is not limited to, a home owned by a WCU-recognized fraternity located at 614 South Walnut Street and a home owned by a WCU-recognized fraternity at 626 S High St.

STATISTICS FOR INCIDENTS REPORTED ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.

Reporting for public properties includes all incidents known to the University that are reported to local municipal police agencies or a campus security authority for incidents occurring in public areas that are geographically contiguous to campus property.

NOTES FOR THE JEANNE CLERY ACT STATISTICS REPORT (CHARTS, 1, 2 AND 3)

- a. Statistics in these categories depict arrests for all liquor, drug, and weapons law violations and include both student and nonstudent arrests. Students arrested for these violations are typically referred to the Office of Student Conduct.
- b. A report is considered unfounded and removed from crime statistics when sworn or commissioned law enforcement officers have fully investigated the crime report and have determined that report to be false or baseless.

NOTES FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING ACT STATISTICS REPORT (CHART 4,5,6)

- c. Under Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part I Crimes guidelines, the crime of Rape includes Rape, Attempted Rape, and Sexual-Assault.
- d. Under UCR Part II Crimes guidelines, Assaults-Non-aggravated include simple assaults as well as harassment incidents involving a threat to assault.
- e. Under UCR Part II Crimes guidelines, Sex Offenses (excluding Prostitution and Rape) include Indecent Assault and Indecent Exposure.
- f. All Other Offenses (except traffic) include, but are not limited to, trespass and violation of city ordinances.

Charts 1, 2, and 3 contain the statistics for those offenses reported to the West Chester University Police Department, West Chester Borough Police Department, West Goshen Police Department, WCU security, and University personnel who have significant responsibility for student life and campus activities.

Charts 4,5 and 6 contain the statistics for those offenses reported to the West Chester University Police Department only as recorded for the Uniform Crime Report (UCR). These UCR statistics are derived, in part, from patrol areas in community areas not adjacent to campus. These numbers are almost always different from the Clery numbers since UCR definitions are different from Clery crime definitions.

Notes for the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting Act Statistics Report (charts 4, 5, and 6)

- a. Under Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Part I Crimes guidelines, the crime of Rape includes Rape, Attempted Rape, and Sexual Assault
- b. Under UCR Part II Crimes guidelines, Assaults-Non-aggravated include simple assault as well as harassment incidents involving a threat to assault

- c. Under UCR Part II Crimes guidelines, Sex Offenses (excluding Prostitution and Rape) include Indecent Assault and Indecent Exposure
- d. All Other Offenses (except traffic) include, but are not limited to, trespass and violation of borough or city ordinances.

Chapter 3 of the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting Act requires the release of crime statistics and crime rates to students and employees, and it requires that those statistics be available to applicants and new employees upon request. The crime rate is determined by a formula specified by the Uniform Crime Reporting Act and is calculated by dividing the number of reported crimes (r) by the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and employees, then multiplying that number by 100,000. The formula used to calculate the rate is:

$$\left(\frac{r}{\text{FTE}} \right) \times 100,000 = \text{crime rate}$$

The Clery statistics for West Chester campus, the Graduate Center location and the Exton location can be found at the end of this report.

DEFINITIONS OF CLERY ACT REPORTABLE CRIMES

Crimes for which the University is responsible for reporting under the Clery Act are arranged in four categories: Criminal Offenses, Hate Crimes, VAWA offenses and Arrests and Disciplinary Referrals for Weapons, Drug and Alcohol Law Violations

Consistent with the requirements of the Clery Act, Pennsylvania distinctions are listed among the Clery definitions below in *italicized* text.

CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Murder/Manslaughter: Defined as the willful killing of one human being by another.

Manslaughter by Negligence: Defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.

Sexual Assault: Under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the definition of sexual assault is an offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Per the National Incident-based Reporting System User Manual from the FBI UCR Program, a sex offense is "any sexual act directed against another person without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent." The VAWA definition of sexual assault includes rape, fondling, incest, and statutory rape.

Rape: 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.

Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the

victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of the victim's age or because of the victim's temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

Incest: Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape: Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent. (In Pennsylvania, the age of consent for sexual activity is 16 years or older.)

PENNSYLVANIA DEFINITION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT DEFINITION OF SEXUALLY BASED OFFENSES

The offenses listed below are the Pennsylvania distinctions to the Clery Act definitions listed above.

Sexual Assault: The state of Pennsylvania defines sexual assault as follows: "[E]xcept as provided in Section 3121 (relating to rape or) or 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse), a person commits a felony of the second degree when that person engages in sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse with a complainant without the complainant's consent.

Rape- a person commits a felony of the first degree when the person engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant:

- (1) *By forcible compulsion*
- (2) *By threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution*
- (3) *Who is unconscious or where the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the sexual intercourse is occurring*
- (4) *Where the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance.*
- (5) *Who suffers from a mental disability which renders the complainant incapable of consent*

Indecent Assault- a person is guilty of indecent assault if the person has indecent contact with the complainant, causes the complainant to have indecent contact with the person or intentionally causes the complainant to come into contact with seminal fluid, urine or feces for the purpose of arousing sexual desire in the person or the complainant and:

- (1) *the person does so without the complainant's consent;*
- (2) *the person does so by forcible compulsion;*
- (3) *the person does so by threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution;*
- (4) *the complainant is unconscious or the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the indecent contact is occurring;*
- (5) *the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance;*
- (6) *the complainant suffers from a mental disability which renders the complainant incapable of consent;*
- (7) *the complainant is less than 13 years of age; or*
- (8) *the complainant is less than 16 years of age and the person is four or more years older than the complainant and the complainant and the person are not married to each other.*

Indecent contact is defined as “any touching of the sexual or other intimate parts of the person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire, in any person.

Incest- Except as provided under subsection (b), a person is guilty of incest, a felony of the second degree, if that person knowingly marries or cohabits or has sexual intercourse with an ancestor or descendant, a brother or sister of the whole or half blood or an uncle, aunt, nephew or niece of the whole blood.

(b) Incest of a minor.—A person is guilty of incest of a minor, a felony of the second degree, if that person knowingly marries, cohabits with or has sexual intercourse with a complainant who is an ancestor or descendant, a brother or sister of the whole or half blood or an uncle, aunt, nephew or niece of the whole blood and:

- (1) is under the age of 13 years; or
- (2) is 13 to 18 years of age and the person is four or more years older than the complainant.

Statutory Sexual assault- Except as provided in section 3121 (relating to rape), a person commits a felony of the second degree when that person engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant to whom the person is not married who is under the age of 16 years and that person is either:

- (1) four years older but less than eight years older than the complainant; or
- (2) eight years older but less than 11 years older than the complainant.

(b) Felony of the first degree.—A person commits a felony of the first degree when that person engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant under the age of 16 years and that person is 11 or more years older than the complainant and the complainant and the person are not married to each other.

Robbery: Defined as 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: Defined as 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.

Burglary: Unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

Motor Vehicle Theft: Theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

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

HATE CRIMES

The University is committed to maintaining an environment free from unlawful discrimination or harassment and the reporting of incidents enables the University to assess the campus climate and promptly respond to incidents. Together, we can work to maintain an educational and work environment that is free from unlawful harassment and discrimination. Hate crimes are especially cruel, and the University will prosecute offenders under the law and/or its conduct processes.

Categories of Prejudice: Disability, Ethnicity, Gender, Gender Identity, National Origin, Race, Religion, Sexual Orientation

For Clery Act reporting purposes, hate crimes include the criminal offenses described previously on this page, in addition to the four crimes listed below, that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim based on one or more of the following categories of bias: race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, national origin, or disability.

- **Larceny/Theft:** The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. This includes pocket-picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from building, theft from a motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories, and all other larcenies.
- **Simple Assault:** Unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor 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.
- **Intimidation:** 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.
- **Destruction/Damage/Vandalism to Property** (except Arson): To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface, or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

ARRESTS AND DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS

Liquor Law Violations: The violation of state and/or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, or possession or use of alcoholic beverages.

Drug Abuse Violations: The violation 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.

Weapons Law Violations: The violation 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.

DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS

The referral of any person to any campus official who initiates a disciplinary action of which a record is kept and which may result in the imposition of a sanction.

THE VAWA OFFENSES

Another category of Clery definitions is the definition contained in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Those offenses are

Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking. Where applicable the Pennsylvania distinctions to the VAWA Act offenses are provided.

Domestic Violence: Includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or by 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 in which the crime of violence occurred.

Domestic Violence is categorized as Regulatory when it occurs in the United States, within an Education Program or Activity and when the Complainant is participating or seeking to participate in an Education Program or Activity at the time of the filing of the complaint. Otherwise, Domestic Violence will be categorized as Non-Regulatory.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTINCTIONS TO THE VAWA CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Pennsylvania does not have a specific statute for domestic violence; those incidents are categorized as simple or aggravated assaults or other applicable offenses

Under the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa. C.S. § 6101. et seq. abuse, which would constitute a Clery countable crime is defined as follows:

The occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood:

- (1) *Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon.*
- (2) *Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent serious bodily injury.*
- (3) *The infliction of false imprisonment pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment).*
- (4) *Physically or sexually abusing minor children, including such terms as defined in Chapter 63 (relating to child protective services).*
- (5) *Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person, without proper authority, under circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury. The definition of this paragraph applies only to proceedings commenced under this title and is inapplicable to any criminal prosecutions commenced under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses).*

Dating Violence: The VAWA definition of 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. The existence of such a relationship shall be based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship,

the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For the purposes of this definition, dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Dating Violence is categorized as Regulatory when it occurs in the United States, within an Education Program or Activity and when the Complainant is participating or seeking to participate in an Education Program or Activity at the time of the filing of the complaint. Otherwise, Dating Violence will be categorized as Non-Regulatory.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTINCTIONS TO THE VAWA CRIME OF DATING VIOLENCE

Pennsylvania does not have a specific statute for dating violence; those incidents are categorized as simple or aggravated assaults or other applicable offenses.

Stalking: The VAWA definition of stalking is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to (a) fear for the person's safety or the safety of others, or (b) suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition, (a) course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property; (b) reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim; and (c) substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

Stalking is categorized as Regulatory when it occurs in the United States, within an Education Program or Activity and when the Complainant is participating or seeking to participate in an Education Program or Activity at the time of the filing of the complaint. Otherwise, Stalking will be categorized as Non-Regulatory.

PENNSYLVANIA DISTINCTIONS TO THE VAWA CRIME OF STALKING

In Pennsylvania, a person commits the crime of stalking when the person either: (1) engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts toward another person, including following the person without proper authority, under circumstances that demonstrate either an intent to place such other person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress to such other person; or (2) engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly communicates to another person under circumstances which demonstrate or communicate either an intent to place such other person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress to such other person.

Stalking: The VAWA definition of stalking is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to (a) fear for the person's safety or the safety of others, or (b) suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition, (a) course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils,

threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property; (b) reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim; and (c) substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

Stalking is categorized as Regulatory when it occurs in the United States, within an Education Program or Activity and when the Complainant is participating or seeking to participate in an Education Program or Activity at the time of the filing of the complaint. Otherwise, Stalking will be categorized as Non-Regulatory.

In Pennsylvania, a person commits the crime of stalking when the person either: (1) engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts toward another person, including following the person without proper authority, under circumstances that demonstrate either an intent to place such other person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress to such other person; or (2) engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly communicates to another person under circumstances which demonstrate or communicate either an intent to place such other person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress to such other person.

HAZING

On December 23, 2024, the President signed into law the Stop Campus Hazing Act, which, among other things, establishes a federal definition of hazing, requires colleges and institutions to create and update the Campus Hazing Transparency Report on a biannual basis and makes hazing a Clery-reportable crime.

The law's impact on the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is significant in that it sets out required policy statements for this newest Clery Crime definitions of which must be included in the ASFSR.

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY PROHIBITION ON HAZING

West Chester University prohibits anyone from engaging in or attempting hazing conduct. Hazing is dangerous and detrimental to the self-esteem and physical well-being of students who are targeted by the activity. Hazing degrades the values of the involved organization and creates an environment of disrespect that contradicts the University's commitment to and statement of civility. It is not a defense to hazing or any hazing related conduct that the consent of a student to participate in suspected hazing activity was sought or obtained; or that the suspected hazing conduct was sanctioned by the University or an organization.

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY DEFINITION OF HAZING

HAZING – A person, individually or with others, or organization, who intentionally, knowingly or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting or affiliating an individual into or with an organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing an individual's membership or status in an organization, regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, do any of the following:

1. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to

consume any food, drink, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug, or other substances which subjects the individual to a risk of emotional or physical harm.

2. Endure brutality of a physical nature, which may include but is not limited to whipping, beating, branding, paddling, kicking, striking, pushing, shoving, tackling, calisthenics, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or exposure to the elements.
3. Commit any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
4. Endure brutality of a mental nature, which may include but is not limited to activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, which may include, but not limited to sleep deprivation, confinement, exclusion from social contact, or conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment or degradation;
5. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts or enduring brutality of a sexual nature;
6. Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the student;
7. Any activity against a person that includes a criminal violation of local, state, tribal, or federal law or University policy or rule;
8. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, state, tribal, or federal law or University policy or rule.

Aggravated Hazing: A person commits the violation of aggravated hazing if any of the above actions results in serious bodily injury or death to the individual, either from actions of reckless indifference to their health and safety, or by actions that cause, coerce, or force the consumption of an alcoholic liquid or drug.

INFORMATION REGARDING APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE, AND TRIBAL LAWS ON HAZING

In addition to the University's Hazing policy, members of the campus community should be aware of applicable jurisdictional laws pertaining to Hazing.

Applicable Pennsylvania state law on hazing

Pennsylvania criminalized hazing with the passage of the Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Law. Components of Pennsylvania's anti hazing law are very similar to the Stop Campus Hazing Act. Some relevant sections from that statute are listed below, specifically, the definition of hazing and the definition of an organization. If you wish to view the full text of the statute the citation is included below.

Under Pennsylvania law, hazing is defined as:

A person commits the offense of hazing if the person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting or affiliating a minor or student into or with an organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing a minor or student's membership or status in an organization, causes, coerces or forces a minor or student to do any of the following:

- (1) Violate Federal or State criminal law.

- (2) *Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug or other substance which subjects the minor or student to a risk of emotional or physical harm.*
- (3) *Endure brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics or exposure to the elements.*
- (4) *Endure brutality of a mental nature, including activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment.*
- (5) *Endure brutality of a sexual nature.*
- (6) *Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the minor or student.*

Penalties for conviction under the section:

Grading.--

- (1) *Except as provided under paragraph (2), hazing is a summary offense.*
- (2) *Hazing shall be a misdemeanor of the third degree if it results in or creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the minor or student.*
- (c) **Limitation.--***Hazing shall not include reasonable and customary athletic, law enforcement or military training, contests, competitions or events.*

Pennsylvania has another definition of hazing, aggravated hazing defined as:

A person commits the offense of aggravated hazing if the person commits a violation of section 2802 (relating to hazing) that results in serious bodily injury or death to the minor or student and:

- (1) *the person acts with reckless indifference to the health and safety of the minor or student; or*
- (2) *the person causes, coerces or forces the consumption of an alcoholic liquid or drug by the minor or student.*

Penalties for conviction under this section are:

Aggravated hazing shall be a felony of the third degree

Furthermore, the statute defines a student organization as:

Any of the following:

- (1) *A fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, club or service, social or similar group, whose members are primarily minors, students or alumni of the organization, an institution or secondary school.*
- (2) *A national or international organization with which a fraternity or sorority or other organization as enumerated under paragraph (1) is affiliated.*

The statute has a section dedicated especially to organizations whereby the organization can be charged and penalized under the statute, specifically, the statute defines organizational hazing as:

An organization that intentionally, knowingly or recklessly promotes or facilitates a violation of section 2802 (relating to hazing) or 2803 (relating to aggravated hazing) commits the offense of organizational hazing and shall be subject to any of the following penalties:

- (1) *A fine of not more than \$5,000 for each violation of section 2802.*

- (2) *A fine of not more than \$15,000 for each violation of section 2803.*

Penalties.--*In addition to any other sentence imposed, if an organization commits the offense of organizational hazing, the organization shall be subject to such other relief as the court deems equitable.*

The full statute can be found at 18 Pa. C.S § 2801, et seq.

There are no applicable Tribal laws relating to Hazing in the University's jurisdiction.

West Chester University prohibits students, employees, officers, contractors, and volunteers from engaging, or attempting to engage in Hazing.

DEFINITION OF HAZING UNDER THE STOP CAMPUS HAZING ACT (SCHA).

This definition of hazing is for statistical purposes only (counting the new Clery crime of hazing), for institutional violations West Chester University will use its institutional hazing policy, for criminal matters, the West Chester University Police Department will use the Pennsylvania anti-hazing statute.

For reporting statistics on incidents of hazing, hazing, is defined as:

1. *any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or person regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that—*
 - *is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and*
 - *causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including*
 - i. *whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing a harmful substance on someone's body or similar activity;*
 - ii. *causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement on a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;*
 - iii. *causing or coercing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;*
 - iv. *causing, coercing or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts*
 - v. *any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;*
 - vi. *any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and*
 - vii. *any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal or Federal law.*⁴
2. Hazing also involves any other activity not addressed by (1) of this definition that is expected of someone joining or participating in a student organization that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers them, regardless of a person's willingness to participate.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION DEFINITION.

Under the Student Code of Conduct a recognized student organization is one that is:

⁴ 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(1)(K)

[A]ny organized group of students that has complied with or is in the process of complying with the University's requirements for registration, recognition, or is formed through University academic, athletic, or auxiliary department, or is funded by Student Services Incorporated.

For purposes of the University's Hazing policy, the phrase "student organization" includes organizations defined under both the Timothy J. Piazza AntiHazing law AND the Stop Campus Hazing Act which specifically defines a student organization as defined as:

"an organization at an institution of higher education (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports teams, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the institution of higher education, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by the institution"⁵

Any student organization recognized or established by West Chester University that is found to be responsible for violating the University's Hazing policy will be recorded in the Campus Hazing Transparency Report. However, all reports of hazing involving student organizations that occur in the University's Clery Geography will be included in the crime statistics regardless of whether the organization is established or recognized by the institution.

The University reserves the right to hold a sub-group of an organization accountable for Hazing policy violations, rather than the entire student organization, when circumstances reasonably indicate a sub-group, not the entire student organization, committed a Hazing policy violation. For example, affinity groups or position groups within an athletic team that meet the definition of student organization may be held accountable for Hazing in lieu of the entire athletic team.

REPORTING PROCEDURES – HOW TO REPORT HAZING.

Any individual who experiences or witnesses Hazing is strongly encouraged to report the incident immediately. Any incident involving an in-progress crime or emergency should be reported immediately to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction by dialing 911.

Reports of hazing activity or behavior believed to involve hazing, as defined by federal or state law or university policy, can be made in person, by phone, or by email using the contact information below

- WCU Police Department or the law enforcement agency where the activity occurred.
 - University Police at 610-436-3311.
 - 690 South Church St, West Chester, PA
 - Clery Reporting Form
- Office of Student Conduct, 200 Ruby Jones Hall, 610-436-3511, or studentconduct@wcupa.edu
 - [Group Conduct Report Form](#)
- Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance 114 West Rosedale Ave, 610-436-2433
- anonymous text (256-928-2273), an anonymous tip phone line (610-436-3100), or [online reporting form](#).

Upon notification of an allegation of hazing, the Office of Student Conduct or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance will immediately notify the WCU Police Department to ensure investigative integrity for any criminal activity is preserved.

Policy Violation Allegations:

- Allegations of student violations of this policy should be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.
- In all cases of alleged violations of this policy, the organization advisor, University department/associate, and/or general headquarters of the organization (when applicable) will be notified.
- During the period of formal investigation or adjudication of alleged violations of this policy, all new member-related activities, organization activities, and/or University recognition/sponsorship of the organization may be summarily suspended.
- Allegations of anti-hazing policy violation by an employee should be referred to the Office of Human Resources for administrative follow-up in accordance with employment law and current collective bargaining agreements.
- Allegations of violations of this policy by university volunteers should be referred to the Office of Student Engagement at 610-436-2117

It is not a defense to any alleged violation of this policy that the consent of a person to participate in suspected hazing activity was sought or obtained; or that the suspected hazing conduct was sanctioned by the University or an organization.

INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS

Investigations of group conduct follow the procedures listed below for ALL policy violations, including hazing.

Preliminary Inquiry

Reported incidents of group misconduct often result in a preliminary inquiry conducted by fact-finding investigators. Interviews may be set up with the individual complainants, reporters, witnesses, and respondent student(s). If it is determined that there is reason to continue the fact-finding information, the case may move to a formal investigation and the group's leader and the University office overseeing the organization (e.g. Athletics, Fraternity and Sorority Life) will be notified.

The Alternative Resolution Process for groups is the most informal process offered only:

1. When all parties involved and the Hearing Officer agree to it.
2. When the group chooses it as an option, as participation in any Alternative Resolution Process is strictly voluntary. Students who choose not to participate retain the right to a formal resolution process.

Organizational Misconduct Partnership Process – Matters are eligible for this process if the Hearing Officer and group agree on the basic details of what took place, what policy-violating behaviors the group is potentially responsible for, and the need for the group to take corrective action. In such cases, the student group could voluntarily elect this process, which allows them to conduct a self-investigation, and develop a corrective action agreement. All self-investigation findings and proposed actions will be reviewed and approved by the Office of Student Conduct. A disciplinary record will be maintained for student groups.

- a. Groups may cancel their participation in the Alternative Resolution Process any time before signing the agreement and use the formal conduct process.
- b. The Hearing Officer may also decide to rescind the Alternative

⁵ 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(vii)

Resolution Process if it is no longer appropriate any time before signing the agreement.

- c. If the Alternative Resolution Process stops, the case will revert to the formal conduct process.
- d. Once an agreement is signed, it is final. The group can't appeal the agreement, and if the group does not complete the agreed upon sanction condition(s), a hold will be placed on

Upon receipt of a report alleging Hazing, the Director of Student Conduct, or designee, will review the report and determine if the alleged behavior, as described in the report, would constitute Hazing as defined by the University. As it relates to the University's Hazing policy, the term "respondent" refers to a student, a recognized or registered student organization, or an employee who is alleged to have engaged in Hazing.

The Director of Student Conduct, or designee, is empowered to take reasonable steps to obtain additional information that may be necessary to determine if a policy violation has been alleged or to determine if an investigation is warranted. Allegations of Hazing involving a student or a student organization that is officially recognized by, or registered with, the University will be resolved using the procedures outlined in the West Chester University Student Code of Conduct. Allegations involving other respondents will be resolved using the policies and procedures applicable to the respondent's status.

INTERIM ACTION

In response to the report, the Director of Student Conduct, or designee, may impose an interim suspension on a respondent prior to the resolution when a threat of imminent harm to persons or property exists, and/or there is potential for significant disruption to the community that exists during the course of investigation.

Interim suspension is not a sanction. It is taken to protect the safety and well-being of individuals and the University community. Interim administrative action is preliminary in nature; it is in effect only until there is a resolution of the matter. The respondent may challenge the interim action in writing to the next level of conduct authority within five (5) days of the imposition of the interim action. The interim action will be in effect during the challenge.

Formal Investigations

- a. The fact-finder will determine the best method of information gathering. This may include a mandated group meeting or a series of individual meetings.
- b. Students will be asked to sign an investigation participation form affirming the truthfulness of statements provided, their right to be silent, acknowledging they have the option to file a report with law enforcement, understanding that information provided may be made available to other individuals if they are alleged to have violated the Student Code of Conduct, and that any attempt to disrupt or obstruct the investigation may result in violations of dishonesty or failure to comply violations of the Student Code of Conduct.
- c. In the interest of full disclosure and to reduce the incidence of retaliatory behavior, the investigators will make every attempt to keep student testimony for group misconduct private.
- d. Cell phones and any other technology may be collected during

any meeting to avoid collusion and conspiracy but are not subject to search without student permission or warrant.

- e. The fact-finder(s) may recommend an interim action to the Assistant Dean or designee at any point in the investigation.
- f. Although participation in the investigation is optional, future membership in the group may be assessed on the student member's cooperation.
- g. During the investigation, the student group has the right to be assisted by any advisor they may choose, at their own expense.

The respondent (typically the president for a registered/recognized student organization, or its equivalent for an established organization) will be sent a written notice of the allegations by way of their University supplied e-mail account. If the student organization has a national or oversight entity, that entity may be apprised of the University's investigation at the discretion of the Director of Student Conduct.

For group related allegations, while under investigation, students in groups will:

- a. Refrain from communication or behavior that could be considered retaliatory in nature, which is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Examples include, but are not limited to, sending intimidating or harassing texts, calls or emails; sending messages through other people; and making intimidating or harassing comments on social media. Retaliation against anyone involved in the case should be brought to the immediate attention of the Office of Student Conduct and/or Public Safety.
- b. Keep all information related to the incident as private as possible. In order to protect the privacy of all parties, only speak with University officials who are facilitating the investigation. Any member or guest who are known to have facts of the incident (what took place before, during, and after the alleged misconduct) may be contacted for an interview.
- c. If the investigation determines that a group's culture or actions contributed to the incident, the group will be issued a list of initial Student Code of Conduct alleged violations and may include an Interim Action Notice, which will remain in place until the conclusion of the resolution process. While there is a general time frame for the investigation, there are exceptions that are allowed for extenuating circumstances. For example, a delay in investigation may occur if local law enforcement and legal representatives are not supportive of key individuals (the complainant and/or respondent) participating in University interviews that could affect a criminal proceeding.
- c. If it is determined that a group created a "hostile environment," defined as "Conduct of a sexual nature that is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive to limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the educational program" (WCU Sexual Misconduct Policy), they may be found responsible.

CAMPUS HAZING TRANSPARENCY REPORT

A component of the SCHAs requires institutions to publish a Campus Hazing Transparency Report. The report applies only to student organizations established or recognized by the institution.

The CHTR is intended to disclose incidents of hazing for which student organizations have been found responsible for violating the institution's standards of conduct regarding hazing. Entries concerning the findings made in the Campus Hazing Transparency Report

must stay in the report, I.e., on the Office of Student Conduct’s website) for 5 years. This requirement is very similar to Timothy J. Piazza Antihazing Act which already requires institutions like West Chester to publish such data

The Transparency Report will be updated to include new findings of organizational responsibility no less than twice annually following a final determination that a student organization has violated the University’s Hazing policy. The first Transparency Report will be published by December 23, 2025, unless no organizations have been found responsible for Hazing at that time, as the University is not required to publish a Transparency Report until a student organization has been found responsible for violating the University’s Hazing policy on or after July 1, 2025.

Each entry published in the Transparency Report will include, at a minimum, the following information:

- the student organization;
- a general description of the violation that resulted in a finding of responsibility;
- whether the violation involved the abuse or illegal use of alcohol or drugs;
- the findings of the institution (i.e., the rationale for finding the organization responsible for Hazing);
- any sanctions placed on the student organization; and
- the dates on which—
 - the incident was alleged to have occurred,
 - the investigation into the incident was initiated,

- the investigation ended with a finding that a Hazing violation occurred, and
- the student organization was provided notice that the incident resulted in a Hazing violation.

The Transparency Report will be posted online by December 23, 2025, consistent with the requirements of the Stop Campus Hazing Act. On this page, the University also publishes additional information, including:

- A statement notifying the public of the availability of Hazing statistics that are published in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report;
- Information about the institution’s policies relating to Hazing; and
- Information on applicable l, State laws regarding Hazing.

HAZING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS

The University will maintain an Antihazing Program within the Office of Student Engagement. for the purpose of ensuring the University’s rules, organizational training, antihazing policy dissemination, as well as, reporting mechanisms are implemented and maintained.

Consistent with the requirements of the Stop Campus Hazing act the University, specifically the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, is implementing a comprehensive hazing prevention program for all new members to organizations on campus.

SCHA disclosure comparisons

Distinctions between Policy and the CHTR	Crime Statistics and Policy Statement Disclosures	Campus Hazing Transparency Report (CHTR)
What	Include Hazing incidents meeting the Federal definition reported to a CSA or LLEA ⁶	Include hazing incidents reported to a CSA that result in a finding violating the institution’s hazing policy
By Whom	Registered, recognized, established or unrecognized (underground) student organizations	Registered, recognized and established student organizations
Geography	Clery geography	Any location where the institution’s hazing policy has jurisdiction
How to Count	Distinct incident count	Organizations found responsible based on distinct investigations (could involve multiple separate incidents in a single report)
Special Reporting Considerations	Not subject to hierarchy rule, count other co-occurring crimes	Not required to develop until there is a finding of hazing
Where Disclosed	Annual Security and Fire Safety Report (ASFSR) and to the Department of Education via the CSSDACT	Detailed report located prominently on institution’s website
Policy Disclosures	Statement of current policies related to Hazing and prevention programs and awareness programs	Statement notifying public of annual availability of hazing statistics Information related to institutional policies related to hazing Applicable local, state and Tribal laws on Hazing

6 LLE means Local Law Enforcement Agency

The University provides Hazing prevention and awareness programs through Vector solutions that are informed by research, campus-wide in scope, and designed to reach all students, staff, and faculty. Training on the Stop Campus Hazing Act is also incorporated into annual Campus Security Authority training.

These programs are part of the University's comprehensive strategy to prevent incidents of Hazing before they occur.

Specifically, the University provides Hazing prevention and awareness programs to students by and through Vector Solutions.

These courses teach, among other things the following:

- Identifying the key components in the definition of hazing
- Recognize who is involved in hazing and why they exhibit these behaviors
- Recognizing the signs and examples of hazing
- Identifying the risks associated with hazing
- Identify the risks associated with hazing, and;
- Identifying what you can and should do to protect yourself and your peers from the dangers of hazing

This training is given to ALL individuals seeking to join an organization on campus.

There is a follow-up survey assigned to students after completion of the initial hazing course.

POLICIES ON ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Notice

Each year the Office of Human Resources sends a notice to all employees reaffirming West Chester University as a Drug-Free Workplace.

West Chester University is committed to providing a healthy working environment consistent with PASSHE 1989-02: Drug-Free Workplace and the maintenance of campus free from unlawful drug and alcohol-related activity. West Chester University certifies its compliance with The Drug-Free Workplace Act (41 USC 701), The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (P.C.101.226), and their implementing criteria: the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Regulations (34 CFR 86).

West Chester University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, sale or distribution of alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities. West Chester University, working with the Philadelphia Police Department vigorously enforces all local, state, and federal laws as they pertain to the unlawful possession, use, sale or distribution of illicit drugs. Conviction under such laws provides for punishment that includes fines and/or imprisonment.

Unlawful possession, use, sale or distribution of alcohol and drugs is also a university policy violation which can be found in the Student Code of Conduct.

Below are citations to the legal consequences of alcohol-related violations in Pennsylvania, the state Marijuana Crime Code, and legal sanctions for drug violations under federal government law.

Legal Sanctions for underage alcohol law violation under PA state law and PA DUI laws

UNDERAGE ALCOHOL

(b)Penalty.—A person convicted of violating subsection (a) [relating to an underage alcohol violation] may be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$500 for the first violation and not more than \$1,000 for the second and each subsequent violation.⁷

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

(a) Basic offenses.—Except as provided in subsection (b):

- (1) An individual who violates section 3802(a) (relating to driving under influence of alcohol or controlled substance) and has no more than one prior offense commits a misdemeanor for which the individual may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than six months and to pay a fine under section 3804 (relating to penalties).
- (2) An individual who violates section 3802(a) and has two prior offenses commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.
- (3) An individual who violates section 3802 and has three or more prior offenses or has previously been convicted of a violation of section 3735 (relating to homicide by vehicle while driving under influence) commits a felony of the third degree.

(b)Other offenses.—

- (1) An individual who violates section 3802(a)(1) where there was an accident resulting in bodily injury, serious bodily injury or death of any person or in damage to a vehicle or other property, or who violates section 3802(b), (e) or (f) and who has one prior offense commits a misdemeanor for which the individual may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than six months and to pay a fine under section 3804.
- (2) An individual who violates section 3802(a)(1) where the individual refused testing of breath or chemical testing pursuant to a valid search warrant, court order or any other basis permissible by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, or who violates section 3802(c) or (d) and who has no prior offenses commits a misdemeanor for which the individual may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than six months and to pay a fine under section 3804.
- (3) An individual who violates section 3802(a)(1) where there was an accident resulting in bodily injury, serious bodily injury or death of any person or in damage to a vehicle or other property, or who violates section 3802(b), (e) or (f) and who has two prior offenses commits a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (4) An individual who violates section 3802(a)(1) where the individual refused testing of breath or chemical testing pursuant to a valid search warrant, court order or any other basis permissible by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, or who violates section 3802(c) or (d) and who has one prior offense commits a misdemeanor of the first degree.
- (4.1) An individual who violates section 3802(a)(1) where the individual refused testing of breath or chemical testing pursuant to a valid search warrant, court order or any other basis permissible by the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Pennsylvania, or who violates section 3802(c) or (d) commits:

⁷ 18 Pa. C.S. § 6308(b)

- (i) A felony of the third degree if the individual has two prior offenses .
- (ii) A felony of the second degree if the individual has three or more prior offenses.
- (5) An individual who violates section 3802 where a minor under 18 years of age was an occupant in the vehicle when the violation occurred commits :
 - (i) A misdemeanor of the first degree if the individual has no more than one prior offense.
 - (ii) A felony of the third degree if the individual has two or more prior offenses.⁸

LEGAL SANCTIONS FOR MARIJUANA LAW VIOLATIONS UNDER PENNSYLVANIA LAW

PENNSYLVANIA MARIJUANA POSSESSION PENALTIES

Possession of Marijuana (pot) Penalties in PA are as follows:

For 30 grams or less, you are facing misdemeanor charges of up to 30 days in jail, and a fine of \$500.

For possession of more than 30 grams, the penalties go up to 1 year in jail and \$5000 in fines. Automatic six month loss of license.

If you are a first time marijuana offender, it is possible to get probation without a verdict. For second (2nd) offense possession charges, or multiple subsequent offenses, the penalties may double.

If you have more than 30 grams of marijuana, you run the risk of being charged with possession with intent to deliver or distribute in many cases.

PENNSYLVANIA DRUG POSSESSION PENALTIES

Possession of other Controlled Substances Penalties (Heroin, Cocaine, LSD/Acid, Ecstasy/MMDA, Meth, and prescription drugs including Vicodin and Oxycontin or illegal steroids)

Up to one year in prison, and/or a \$5,000 fine first (1st) offense.

Up to two years in prison for a second (2nd) offense.

Up to three years in prison for a third (3rd) offense.

Possession of more than five grams of crack (cocaine) may be subject to a minimum penalty of 5 years in prison.

POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, OR SELLING/ DISTRIBUTING MARIJUANA

Up to 1 year in jail and/or a fine of up to \$2500.

For selling to a minor, under Pennsylvania Drug laws, it can be a felony charge of up to 2 years in jail and a \$5000 fine.

Legal sanctions for drug violations under federal law

Use and Possession of Medical Marijuana is prohibited

Federal law, specifically the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, supersedes Pennsylvania state law. The use and possession of all marijuana is prohibited on campus. Some people need to use med-

ical marijuana that is lawfully obtained under state law. However, lawful use and possession must occur at a location **outside** the University's campus property, i.e. not on campus or in a residence hall.

Questions Regarding Medical Marijuana

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, medical marijuana is a lawfully recognized medication. How then can a state-run institution not support state law? How does a state law enforcement officer have the authority to enforce federal and not state law?

- Federal law supersedes state law. Under federal law, specifically the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, marijuana in all forms (regardless of its medical necessity) is an illegal drug.
- Under federal law, universities must adopt and enforce a written policy that bans the use or possession of all marijuana on campus.
- University police officers enforce University policy, which is and must be consistent with federal law.

How can medical marijuana be used legally by University students or employees?

- Some people need to use medical marijuana that is lawfully obtained under state law. But lawful use must occur at a location outside the University's campus property.
- Nothing in the Pennsylvania Medical Marijuana Act changes federal law. There are lawful uses of marijuana in Pennsylvania. However, medical marijuana is simply not permitted on campus.

Who are the designated persons on campus to manage questions regarding medical marijuana?

- The Vice President for Student Affairs, Assistant Dean of Students for Student Conduct are available to:
- Counsel students about living off campus if they intend to use medical marijuana.
- Help students identify housing resources.
- Affirm that no one may lawfully possess or use medical marijuana on campus.

Is CBD Oil a form of medical marijuana?

- No, CBD products are a new trend. CBD is often advertised as a "cure-all," which will "not get you high" or "not show on a drug screening." However, some users of this "natural supplement" claiming to be THC-free have tested positive for THC and lost jobs over it. It is unregulated and anyone considering CBD should exercise caution

The university offers several health education programs through the Office of Wellness Promotion. These programs may be part of sanction issued by the Office of Student Conduct as part of a disciplinary action or they may be completed by students voluntarily. For 2023 and 2024 the Office of Wellness Promotion offered the Decision about Drinking and Choices about Cannabis workshop⁹

⁹ The Office of Wellness Promotion no longer offers Choices About Cannabis as a workshop. It is now a self-guided D2L module.

⁸ 75 Pa. C.S. § 3803

Wellness Promotion Programs

DECISIONS ABOUT DRINKING

Fall 2024

Friday, August 30th at 3 pm - via Zoom

Monday, September 9th at 10 am - in person, location in RamConnect

Friday, September 27th at 3 pm - via Zoom

Monday, October 7th at 2 pm - in person, location in RamConnect

Friday, October 18th at 3 pm, via Zoom

Wednesday, November 6th at 12 pm - in person, location in RamConnect

Friday, November 15th at 3 pm - via Zoom

Spring 2025

Friday, January 31 at 12pm via Zoom

Wednesday, February 12 at 12pm in person (location in RamConnect)

Friday, February 21 at 3pm via Zoom

Tuesday, March 4 at 2pm in person (location in RamConnect)

Friday, March 21 at 3pm via Zoom

Wednesday, April 9 at 1pm in person (location in RamConnect)

Friday, April 25 at 3pm via Zoom

CHOICES ABOUT CANNABIS IS NO LONGER OFFERED AS A WORKSHOP. IT IS NOW A SELF-GUIDED D2L MODULE.

AS OF FALL SEMESER 2025 DECISIONS ABOUT DRINKING IS NOW A D2L MODULE.

WELLNESS PROMOTION OFFERS A NEW WORKSHOP CALLED BEYOND THE BUZZ. THE DATES OF THAT WORKSHOP ARE BELOW:

Fall 2025

Friday, September 26th at 3 pm

Wednesday, October 8th at 12 pm

Friday, October 24th at 3 pm

Monday, November 10th at 2 pm

Friday, December 5th at 3 pm

The University complies with federal, state, and local laws including those that regulate the possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages and other controlled substances.

West Chester University students who use, sell, exchange, consume, or **possess alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia** on university property or at University functions will be dealt with in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, federal and local laws as well as the University Student Code of Conduct. West Chester University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages on campus. Even students who are 21 years of age or older are not permitted to possess or consume alcohol on campus property. West Chester University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, and sale of illegal drugs on campus.

The West Chester University Department of Public Safety is not responsible for the enforcement of state underage drinking laws and enforcement of Federal and State drug laws at the Philadelphia location of West Chester University. Enforcement falls to the Philadelphia Police Department.

Non-students who violate the University's policies and whose actions are not in compliance with the orderly operation of the University may be prosecuted in accordance with state, federal, and local laws. Non-students involved in on-campus violations of these policies may be banned from university property.

ALCOHOL AND ALCOHOL CONTAINERS

West Chester University campus violation of the University's alcohol policy as set forth in the Student Handbook shall be construed as a violation of this section. Any off-campus violation is a violation of this section when such off-campus use violates local, state, or federal laws. Exceptions to alcohol violations are noted in the Medical Amnesty Policy. This section shall include, but is not limited to, (a) display of empty alcohol containers in any University facility, residence hall, or any affiliated university housing, (b) sale, exchange, use, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus over 21 years of age,

(c) underage use, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, (d) open containers

of alcoholic beverages, (e) public intoxication, and (f) driving under the influence. As it is

a violation of this policy to possess alcohol, demonstrating that a student has knowledge of the location of alcohol and/or the intent to exercise control over the alcohol shall constitute possession. In the absence of extraordinary or mitigating circumstances, a sanction of suspension or expulsion may be imposed on any student found responsible of (g) selling and/or furnishing alcohol to minors.

DRUGS AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA:

Students who exhibit drug use or abuse or any other violation of the University's drug policy, as set forth in the Student Handbook, shall be considered in violation of this section. This includes, but is not limited to, (a) possession or use of any illegal or controlled substance, drug, and/or (b) possession of drug paraphernalia, (c) possession of a significant quantity, distribution, or sale of drugs, and/or (d) driving under the influence. Any off-campus violation is a violation of this section when such off-campus use or possession is in violation of local, state, or federal laws. Demonstrating that a student has knowledge of the location of any illegal or controlled substance, drug or drug paraphernalia, and/ or the intent to exercise control over such items shall constitute possession.

ENFORCEMENT OF STATE, LOCAL, AND FEDERAL LAWS

Anyone (students and non-students alike) in possession of illegal drugs or paraphernalia can be charged under PA Crimes Code Title 18 for alcohol offenses, or for a controlled substance offense, Pennsylvania Crimes Code Title 35.

Anyone who purchases, consumes, possesses or transports alcoholic beverages while being under the age of 21 can be charged with a summary offense. Penalties upon conviction of a first offense can include fines up to \$300 and will involve the suspension of driving privileges for 90 days. Anyone found to be furnishing alcohol to minors can be charged with a misdemeanor offense. Penalties upon conviction can include fines of no less than \$1,000. Additionally, students can receive fines of no less than \$50 for student conduct violations.

THE MEDICAL AMNESTY POLICY

West Chester University's priority is for the safety and well-being of WCU students. The WCU Medical Amnesty policy has been instituted to encourage students and bystanders to seek emergency medical assistance in situations that are possibly life-threatening due to alcohol or drug use, without fear of conduct violations for alcohol and drug use.

For the bystander and student needing assistance to receive medical amnesty from the University, the bystander seeking assistance must:

- a. Call 911, Public Safety, Police, Emergency Services, or otherwise contact another Authorized University Representative based on a reasonable belief that someone, including themselves, is in need of immediate medical assistance;
- b. Reasonably believe that they were the first person to make the 911 call or a call to Public Safety, Police, Emergency Services, or otherwise contact another Authorized University Representative and reported that a person needed immediate medical assistance;
- c. Provide their own name to the 911 operator, Public Safety, Police Emergency Officer, University Staff or other Authorized University Representative;
- d. Remain with the person needing medical assistance until emergency health care providers have arrived and taken care of the person in need of medical assistance; AND
- e. Comply with post-event educational/counseling objectives issued by the Office of Wellness Promotion and/or the Office of Student Conduct.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY RELATING TO INSTANCES OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

The health and safety of every student at the University are of utmost importance. The University recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time sexual misconduct occurs may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. The University strongly encourages students to report incidents of sexual misconduct. A witness to or individual who experiences sexual misconduct, acting in good faith, who discloses any incident of sexual misconduct to University officials or law enforcement will not be sanctioned under the University's Student Code of Conduct for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the incident(s) of sexual misconduct. The University may require the individual to attend an approved alcohol or drug education program and without assessing any charges for such program. Amnesty does not preclude or prevent action by police or other legal authorities pursuant to the relevant state or federal criminal statutes.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Drug and alcohol abuse education programs are available for Philadelphia Location students through the Division of Student Affairs at the Student Health and Wellness Location and at the Counseling and Psychological Services Center. Programs for employees are available through Human Resources at 201 Carter Drive. Counseling professionals, guest speakers, and extensive literature on these subjects are available through these offices. The University also utilizes available county support agencies that help, including 24-hour hotlines and the State Employee Assistance Program.

In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, West Chester University publishes information regarding the University's educational programs related to drug and alcohol abuse prevention. This information contains, inter alia, sanctions for violations of federal, state, and local laws as well as violations of University policy; a description of health risks associated with alcohol and other drug use; a description of available treatment programs for

A complete description of these topics as provided in the University's annual notification to students and employees is available online. To view: [please click this link](#).

Wellness Promotion Programs

DECISIONS ABOUT DRINKING

Fall 2024

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Friday, December 5th at 3 pm

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DATING AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The policy statements contained in this section of the Annual Security Report are understood to apply in instances of Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. Each policy below should be read as applying to each of those VAWA offenses.

PROHIBITION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DATING, AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND STALKING

West Chester University does not discriminate based upon gender in its educational programs and sexual misconduct are types of gender discrimination. The acts can also be forms of gender-based discrimination and are prohibited, whether sexually based or not, and include dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

West Chester University issues this statement of policy to inform the community of the University's comprehensive plan addressing sexual misconduct, educational programs, and procedures addressing sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, whether the incident occurs on or off-campus and when it is reported to a West Chester University official or Campus Security Authority. In this context, West Chester University prohibits the offenses of dating violence, domestic violence sexual assault, and stalking (defined by the Clery Act) and reaffirms its commitment to maintaining a campus environment emphasizing the dignity and worth of all members of the University community.

It is a violation of policy for any member of the University community to engage in sexual harassment/misconduct or to take retaliatory action against an individual for reporting sexual harassment/misconduct. Consequences of sexual harassment/misconduct may include termination of the relationship with the University. Retaliatory actions against persons filing a complaint of sexual harassment/misconduct, or any person cooperating in the investigation of a complaint, is also prohibited. Acts of retaliation shall constitute misconduct subject to disciplinary action and should be reported to the Title IX Coordinator/Director for Equity and Compliance.

The prohibition and prevention of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are addressed in numerous programming options offered by the institution.

All members of the University community are responsible for ensuring that their conduct does not sexually harass any other member of the University community.

Accused students or employees should know the initiation of any University proceeding does not preclude the possibility of criminal charges. Parallel University and criminal proceedings are not uncommon.

This policy is not intended to interfere with the protections afforded by law to freedom of speech. Additional information, including additional examples of what constitutes sexual harassment/misconduct, is available from the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance. At <https://www.wcupa.edu/admin/equal-opportunity-compliance/default.aspx>.

RESOURCES PROVIDED IN WRITING

When a referral is received by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance a letter is sent to the complainant (victim) informing them of the availability of supportive measures, resources both on and off-campus and formal reporting options including assisting in making a criminal report to the West Chester University Police Department, or, if the incident occurred in the complainant's hometown, the complainant's local police department. The outreach letter further explains the rights and responsibilities a complainant has when a report of sexual misconduct is reported to the Office for Equal Opportunity and Compliance.

WHAT IS CONSENT?¹⁰

Consent is a knowing and voluntary agreement to engage in specific sexual activity at the time of the activity communicated through clear actions and/or words that are mutually understood. To be valid, consent must be active, present, and ongoing.

Consent is not present when it is the result of coercion, intimidation, force, or threat of harm.

Consent is not present when an individual is incapacitated due to alcohol, drugs, or sleep, or otherwise without capacity to provide Consent due to intellectual or other disability or other condition. Consent can be withdrawn at any time and consent to one form of sexual activity is not necessarily consent to other forms of sexual activity.

When alcohol is involved, incapacitation is a state beyond drunkenness or intoxication. When drug use is involved, incapacitation is a state beyond being under the influence of or impaired by the use of the drug. Alcohol and other drugs impact each individual differently. Determining whether an individual is incapacitated requires an individualized determination. When determining whether a person has the capacity to provide Consent, the University will consider whether a sober, reasonable person in the same position knew or should have known that the other party could or could not consent to the sexual activity. When determining whether Consent was present, all the circumstances of the relationship between the parties will be considered. The institution's definition of consent is used when consent is an element of the charged Code of Conduct violation.

CONSENT IN REFERENCE TO SEXUAL ACTIVITY UNDER THE PENNSYLVANIA CRIMES CODE

Pennsylvania does not explicitly define consent within its statutes. However, a person commits a felony of the first degree when the person engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant:

- (1) By forcible compulsion;
- (2) By threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution;
- (3) Who is unconscious or where the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the sexual intercourse is occurring;
- (4) Where the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance; or

¹⁰ Definition taken from the 2025-2026 West Chester University Student Code of Conduct, page 7.

- (5) Who suffers from a mental disability that renders the complainant incapable of consent. 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3121.

“Forcible compulsion” is defined as “compulsion by use of physical, intellectual, moral, emotional or psychological force, either express or implied. The term includes, but is not limited to, compulsion resulting in another person’s death, whether the death occurred before, during, or after sexual intercourse.” 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3101.

Further, resistance is not required. The alleged victim need not resist the actor in prosecutions under this chapter: Provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a defendant from introducing evidence that the alleged victim consented to the conduct in question. [18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3107](#), see also [rainn.org/policy](#).

THE UNIVERSITY’S PROHIBITION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

The University **prohibits** all sexual misconduct violations as defined in this policy which includes the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as defined by the Clery Act.

The University engages in comprehensive, intentional, and integrated programming, initiatives, strategies, and campaigns intended to end dating violence, domestic violence sexual assault, and stalking.

The programs offered are culturally relevant and inclusive of diverse communities and identities. They are also sustainable, responsive to community needs, and informed by research, assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome. The University takes steps to consider environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual, relationship, institutional, and societal levels. Below is a description of the programming offered to Students and a list of programs offered to Faculty and Staff. A chart detailing Primary Prevention and Awareness Programs and Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns is located on the following pages.

PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS AT WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY

Though programs are, unfortunately, not offered on-site at the Philadelphia Location, the University has a comprehensive array of prevention and education programs aimed at ending sexual assaults and harassment, dating violence and domestic violence as well as stalking. For more information on violence presentation at WCU visit the [Violence Prevention](#) page for the Center for Women and Gender Equity and the [Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance](#). Students at the Philadelphia Center are encouraged and welcome to participate in these programs either in person or virtually if that is an option.

The Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance (OEC) offers educational and learning opportunities for all students, faculty, and staff at West Chester University (WCU). In accordance with the University’s strategic plan, it is our intent to foster a campus environment that invites all community members to build upon their awareness, skills, and competencies related to diversity and inclusion topic areas. OEC works collaboratively with campus partners to provide consultation, resources, and support toward the advancement and sustainability of a positive campus climate for all.

The OEC conducts training for all campus-mandated reporters includ-

ing but not limited to Res Life staff, student affairs professionals, and supervisors and partners with Human Resources offering training for new faculty and staff during faculty and staff orientation.

PROGRAMS TO PREVENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING

These programs are offered to incoming students either during orientation or during Welcome Week prior to the beginning of the Fall Semester. For new employees, these programs are offered during either employee orientation or soon thereafter.

ONGOING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Throughout the year The Office of Wellness Promotion and the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance offer ongoing prevention and awareness programs for students and employees.

These programs specifically address dating violence, and domestic violence as defined in the Clery Act and under Pennsylvania law.

Below are the Clery definitions followed by the definitions followed by state-specific definitions.

Sex Offenses

- **Rape:** 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 also includes instances in which the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (including due to the influence of drugs or alcohol) or because of age. Physical resistance is not required on the part of the victim to demonstrate lack of consent.
- **Fondling:** the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of their temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- **Incest:** nonforcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory Rape:** nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent
- **Dating Violence:** violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.
 - The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party’s statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
 - Dating violence includes but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
 - Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.
- **Domestic Violence:** a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by:
 - A current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;

- 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 in which the crime of violence occurred, 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 in which the crime of violence occurred.
- **Stalking:** engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others or to suffer substantial emotional distress.
 - Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or 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 victim.
 - Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling

PENNSYLVANIA DISTINCTIONS TO THE OFFENSES DEFINED UNDER THE CLERY ACT

Sexual assault in Pennsylvania is defined as “[E]xcept as provided in Section 3121 (relating to rape or) or 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse), a person commits a felony of the second degree when that person engages in sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse with a complainant without the complainant's consent.

Pennsylvania does not explicitly define consent within its statutes. However, a person commits a felony of the first degree when the person engages in sexual intercourse with a complainant:

- (1) By forcible compulsion;
- (2) By threat of forcible compulsion that would prevent resistance by a person of reasonable resolution;
- (3) Who is unconscious or where the person knows that the complainant is unaware that the sexual intercourse is occurring;
- (4) Where the person has substantially impaired the complainant's power to appraise or control his or her conduct by administering or employing, without the knowledge of the complainant, drugs, intoxicants or other means for the purpose of preventing resistance; or
- (5) Who suffers from a mental disability that renders the complainant incapable of consent. 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3121.

“Forcible compulsion” is defined as “compulsion by use of physical, intellectual, moral, emotional or psychological force, either express or implied. The term includes, but is not limited to, compulsion resulting in another person's death, whether the death occurred before, during, or after sexual intercourse.” 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3101.

Further, resistance is not required. The alleged victim need not resist the actor in prosecutions under this chapter: Provided, however, that

nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a defendant from introducing evidence that the alleged victim consented to the conduct in question. [18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3107.](#)

Consent is a knowing and voluntary agreement to engage in a specific sexual activity at the time of the activity communicated through clear actions and/or words that are mutually understood. To be valid, consent must be active, present, and ongoing.

Consent is not present when it is the result of coercion, intimidation, force, or threat of harm.

Consent is not present when an individual is incapacitated due to alcohol, drugs, or sleep, or otherwise without capacity to provide Consent due to intellectual or other disability or other condition. Consent can be withdrawn at any time and consent to one form of sexual activity is not necessarily consent to other forms of sexual activity.

When alcohol is involved, incapacitation is a state beyond drunkenness or intoxication. When drug use is involved, incapacitation is a state beyond being under the influence of or impaired by the use of the drug. Alcohol and other drugs impact each individual differently. Determining whether an individual is incapacitated requires an individualized determination. When determining whether a person has the capacity to provide Consent, the University will consider whether a sober, reasonable person in the same position knew or should have known that the other party could or could not consent to the sexual activity. When determining whether Consent has been provided, all the circumstances of the relationship between the parties will be considered. The definition of consent is used when it is an element of the code section of which a respondent is accused. Consent, or the absence of consent will be evaluated in cases of sexual assault and sexual exploitation since consent is a necessary element of those charges.

Pennsylvania Definitions of Dating Violence and Domestic Violence.

Pennsylvania does not have a specific statute for domestic violence; those incidents are categorized as simple or aggravated assault or other applicable offenses. Or those crimes are encapsulated within the Protection from Abuse statute.

Under the Protection from Abuse Act, 23 Pa. C.S. § 6101. et seq. abuse, which would constitute a Clery countable crime is defined as follows:

The occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood:

- (1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon.
- (2) Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent serious bodily injury.
- (3) The infliction of false imprisonment pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment).
- (4) Physically or sexually abusing minor children, including such terms as defined in Chapter 63 (relating to child protective services).

- (5) Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person, without proper authority, under circumstances that place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury. The definition of this paragraph applies only to proceedings commenced under this title and is inapplicable to any criminal prosecutions commenced under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses).

In Pennsylvania, a person commits the crime of stalking when the person either: (1) engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly commits acts toward another person, including following the person without proper authority, under circumstances that demonstrate either an intent to place such other person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress to such other person; or (2) engages in a course of conduct or repeatedly communicates to another person under circumstances which demonstrate or communicate either an intent to place such other person in reasonable fear of bodily injury or to cause substantial emotional distress to such other person.

PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PREVENTION & RESPONSE FOR STUDENTS (SCHEDULED UPON REQUEST)

PRESENTERS: EQUITY & COMPLIANCE TEAM, OFFICE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND COMPLIANCE

Beyond laws and policies, sexual misconduct is very damaging to the academic learning environment and student life experience. After taking this course, students should be able to recognize, prevent, and respond to sexual misconduct on campus. This workshop can be requested for a department, class, group, or organization and be requested for certain dates.

ANY RAM CAN-BYSTANDER INTERVENTION:

Any Ram Can is a program designed to engage students in conversation about being an active bystander with an emphasis on alcohol use. Through several different modalities such as trivia, role-playing, and working through a case study, students will explore various bystander intervention strategies, identify the qualities of being an active and engaged bystander, and learn about the university's medical amnesty program. In addition, this workshop provides students the opportunity to discuss recent current events related to bystander intervention on college campuses. This program is available via live facilitation or the department's D2L page.

PROGRAMMING FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PREVENTION & RESPONSE FOR FACULTY/STAFF

Presenters: *Equity & Compliance Team, Office of Equity and Compliance*

Beyond laws and policies, sexual misconduct is very damaging to employees and the workplace environment. After taking this course, faculty and staff should be able to recognize, prevent, and respond to sexual misconduct on campus. This course is offered to staff on request and forms a core component of the annual training for West Chester University's Residence Life Staff.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION & RESPONSE FOR SUPERVISORS (REQUIRED)

Presenters: *Equity & Compliance Team, Office of Equity and Compliance*

The University also has a formal policy that prohibits sexual harassment on campus—a policy ALL supervisors are responsible for enforcing. But beyond laws and policies, sexual harassment is very damaging to the workplace and work environment. After taking this course, supervisors should be able to recognize, prevent, and respond to sexual harassment on campus. *This is a required course for supervisors. Given its mandatory status, this training cannot be scheduled on request.*

PRIMARY PREVENTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS

FOR NEW STUDENTS

These programs include various programs during Welcome Week for all incoming students. The programs are designed to be impactful during their first few days on campus. There are three sessions put on by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance which are mandatory for students to attend, one is a featured speaker and the other are sessions put on by OEC during the week. Other programs throughout the week, while not specific to sexual misconduct nevertheless address issues that could lead to sexual misconduct.

FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

Human Resources incorporates prevention and awareness programs in its online onboarding course in D2L (the University's online learning platform) entitled New Ram Experience and the in-person program called Golden Welcome. Both programs target newly hired staff only which includes police officers, state university administrators (SUA) and temporary employees. Teaching faculty is not included because they have their own orientation, however, during their two-day orientation teaching faculty hear from the Director for Equity and Compliance where prevention and awareness information is shared with them.

The university typically offers primary prevention and awareness and programs during or before Welcome Week.

Primary Prevention and Awareness Programs for Incoming Students

Program Title	Date	Location	Description of Event	Prohibited Behavior Covered
Consent Carnival	8/23/2025 2-4 PM	Residential Quad	Join the Center for Women and Gender Equity for consent themed fun! Activities include giant Jenga, a boundary wheel, a sexual geography map and more. Grab some WCU swag and enjoy some classic carnival snacks!	sexual assault
Managing your Money and Title IX Education	8/23/2025 8:45 AM mandatory Welcome Week session	Asplundh Concert Hall	An audience interactive program that addresses issues surrounding dating, sex, and sexual violence on college campuses through relatable language and scenarios presented by consent education expert Stacey Rose!	sexual violence on college campuses
Managing your Money and Title IX Education	8/24/2024 10:15AM Mandatory Welcome Week session	Asplundh Concert Hall	An audience interactive program that addresses issues surrounding dating, sex, and sexual violence on college campuses through relatable language and scenarios presented by consent education expert Stacey Rose!	sexual violence on college campuses
Managing your Money and Title IX Education	8/24/2024 11:45 am Mandatory Welcome week session	Asplundh Concert Hall	An audience interactive program that addresses issues surrounding dating, sex, and sexual violence on college campuses through relatable language and scenarios presented by consent education expert Stacey Rose!	sexual violence on college campuses

Online Training Modules for Incoming Students

Title	Date	Location	Description	Topics
RespectEDU	Ongoing	Online	This course provides college students with an overview of creating and maintaining healthy and informed relationships and sexual interactions.	defining consent, avoiding assumptions, managing rejection, being a good bystander, seeking support and resources
RespectEDU Foundations for College	Ongoing	Online	Retains the core elements of the full elements of the full RespectEDU including comprehensive coverage of consent, boundary-setting and bystander intervention	bodily autonomy, clear communication, and recognizing and responding to concerning behaviors through scenarios and interactive elements.

Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns

The University has developed an annual educational campaign that is sustained over time and use a variety of approaches to showcase the strategies used as part of the campaign. These are reflected in the table below

The University offered the following **ongoing awareness and prevention programs** for **students**.

ONGOING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS.

Event Name	Date	Summary	Clery Topic Areas	Audience	Attendance (actual or approximate)
Welcome Week: It's On Us Consent Carnival	8/22/24	Carnival event with themed events including topics on boundaries, consent, sexual projects, sexual citizenship, and autonomy.	Sexual violence awareness and prevention, trauma-informed care, domestic/dating violence awareness and prevention	Students (primarily first-year)	200
Rams Step Up	2/6/24	Facilitation on Bystander Intervention Practices (SAGA exec team)	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	approx. 10
Queer Sexy Bingo- Love is Love Week	2/12/24	Bingo-style game related to conversations regarding sex, consent, and pleasure	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	115 registered, up to 125 throughout event
Reproductive Justice Now: Loretta Ross Speaker Event presented by the Women's and Gender Studies Collection	3/25/24	Discussion/ Presentation on reproductive justice, freedom, and bodily autonomy and harm	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence awareness	Students, Faculty, and Staff	59
South Campus Sexy Bingo	4/1/24	smaller-scale bingo event for campus residents, clubs, Greek life, and classrooms regarding sex. consent, and pleasure	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence awareness	Students	37
4th Annual Gender Justice Conference	4/3/24	Conference related to conversations of gender, race, sexual harm and consent, liberation, and expression	Sexual violence awareness and prevention, domestic/ dating violence awareness and prevention, stalking awareness and prevention	Students, Faculty, and Staff	90 registered, up to 160 throughout keynote and breakout sessions
Haley Jakobson Keynote (Gender Justice Conference)	4/3/24	Gender Justice Conference Keynote on Jakobson's book, Old Enough. Included open Q&A and Keynote regarding rape, sexual harm, and healing as a queer person	Sexual violence awareness, domestic/dating violence awareness, stalking awareness, trauma-informed care	Students (primary), faculty and staff	30 registered, 45 actual
Clothesline Project	4/10/24	Offers a visual display for people who have experienced harm to share their stories and everyone to share messages of support through decorated t-shirts hung up on the Quad.	Sexual violence awareness, domestic/dating violence awareness, stalking awareness, trauma-informed care	Students (primary), faculty and staff	8 registered, up to 100 engaged throughout the day/display
Yoga with CWGE	4/10/24	It's on Us Week of Action event (based on National IOU Campaign), offers a trauma-informed space to move your body and access resources if needed	Trauma-informed care	Students	4 registered, up to 20 actual

Let's Talk About It: Queer and Trans Sex Ed	4/22/24	It's on Us Week of Action event (based on National IOU Campaign) speakers on queer and trans sex, pleasure, consent, and harm	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students (primary), faculty and staff	11 registered. approx. 20 actual
Take Back the Night Alternative Community Care Night	4/24/24	An alternate event if the march is too activating for folks. Provides a chance for those who have experienced harm to connect over calming activities, like crafts or yoga.	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	7 registered, 15 actual
Take Back the Night March	4/24/24	Annual march in support of survivors and ending violence. A confidential speakout follows the march to allow people to share their stories.	Sexual violence awareness and prevention, domestic/dating violence awareness and prevention, stalking awareness and prevention	Students	approx. 50
Body Balance W/CWGE: It's On Us Weeek of Action	4/26/24	It's on Us Week of Action event (based on National IOU Campaign), offers a trauma-informed space to move your body and access resources if needed	Trauma-informed care	Students	2 registered, approx. 20 attendees
Sexy Bingo	9/10/24	Bingo-style game related to conversations regarding sex, consent, and pleasure	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	146
Fresh Check Day: Rise Up	9/24/24	Sexual geography and projects activity by marking on a map where students have sex on WCU's Campus	sexual violence awareness and prevention	Students	100
Sexy Bingo: Remixed	10/17/24	Bingo-style game related to conversations regarding sex, consent, and pleasure	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	46
Community Care Night 1	11/6/24	Provides the WCU community a trauma-informed space to connect with peers, share a meal, and participate in calming activities such as journaling, crafts, and games	trauma-Informed care	Students	20
IFC Facilitator Recruitment	3/29/2024-4/11/2024	Recruitment and interviews for Interfraternity Council Members: Included conversations of sexual harm and prevention as we create a team of facilitators to teach bystander intervention to the Greek life community	Sexual violence awareness, domestic/dating violence awareness, stalking awareness, trauma-informed care	Students. primarily IFC	15 interviewees, 14 facilitators confirmed for fall
Theater Student Boundaries & Trauma Informed Practices Training	9/11/2024 & 10/9/2024	Understanding boundaries, Title IX policy and process,	Sexual violence awareness, domestic/dating violence awareness, stalking awareness, trauma-informed care	Students	All students enrolled in theater courses for fall - approximately 80

Sexy Bingo (classroom facilitation)	recurring (as requested)	smaller-scale bingo event for campus residents, clubs, Greek life, and classrooms regarding sex. consent, and pleasure	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	attendance varies from 10-100 depending on group size
IFC Sexual Violence Prevention Facilitator Training	reoccurring	Training funded by the PA Department of Education's It's on Us Grant. Intended to train a group of fraternity men on sexual violence prevention through topics including sexual citizenship, sexual projects, MOFRIES consent model, rejection skills, and more.	Sexual violence awareness and prevention, trauma-informed care, domestic/dating violence awareness and prevention, stalking awareness	WCU Fraternity Members	13 facilitators, presentation reached approximately 400 fraternity members
It's on Us Housing Outreach	Reoccurring	Varied tabling presentations to WCU On-Campus Housing communities including traditional and USH dorm buildings. These topics include boundaries, sexual citizenship, sexual projects, MOFRIES consent training, and bystander intervention	Sexual violence awareness and prevention, trauma-informed care, domestic/dating violence awareness and prevention	Students	approximately 200 students over the course of a semester
Resident Assistant Training	Reoccurring	Invited to train RAs on sexual citizenship and intervention.	Sexual violence, domestic/dating violence	RA's	Same as Title IX
Quilt for a Cause	Reoccurring	Quilting activity with It's on Us t-shirts to raise awareness about the mission and goals of it's on us as a national organization and as a campus student group.	Trauma-informed care, sexual violence prevention	Students	10
Situationships	Reoccurring	Peer educator facilitation training requested by classrooms about creating boundaries, self-advocacy, and healthy relationships.	Domestic/dating violence awareness & prevention	Students	Classroom sizes of 15-40
Rams Step Up	Reoccurring	Facilitation on Bystander Intervention Practices	Peer educator facilitation training requested by classrooms about safe and impactful bystander intervention.	Students	Classroom sizes of 15-40

Ongoing Awareness and Prevention Programs for Students

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Rams Step Up	Reoccurring	Facilitation on Bystander Intervention Practices	Peer educator facilitation training requested by classrooms about safe and impactful bystander intervention.	Students	Classroom sizes of 15-40

The University offered the following **ongoing awareness and prevention programs** for **employees**.

Ongoing Awareness and Prevention Programs for Employees

Program Title	Date Offered	Prohibited Behavior Covered
Title IX Training for Student Employees (Returning RA's)	1/17/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Student Employees (New RA's)	1/18/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Student Employees (Orientation Leaders)	6/14/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Student Employees (ASP Student Mentors)	6/27/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Professional Staff (Residence Life Professional Staff)	30-Jul	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Student Employees (Returning RA's)	8/7/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Professional Staff (New Faculty Orientation)	8/12/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX/Sexual Misconduct Training for Professional Staff (Aramark)	8/13/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX Training for Student Employees (Residence Life Desk Assistants)	8/14/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA
Title IX/Sexual Misconduct Training for Professional Staff (DOSA Professional Staff)	8/20/24	Sexual Misconduct including VAWA

RAMS STEP UP!

A pro-social, peer educator-led, bystander intervention education program. The goals of RAMS STEP UP! workshop are to: raise awareness of helping behavior, increase motivation to help, develop skills and confidence when responding to problems, and ensure the safety and well-being of others. RAMS STEP UP! aims to get bystanders to take action when they see a problematic event. This experience is delivered by trained undergraduate peer educators. This experience is delivered in either (1) one 120-minute part **or** (2) two 60-minute parts (120 minutes total), delivered sequentially via Zoom, and is highly interactive. Staff will provide a few videos and slides for students to look at and engage with before Part 1 of the program.

- Part 1: Introduces students to the bystander effect, engages students in considering situations where they have seen problems, encourages students to consider barriers to helping behavior in breakout rooms, and introduces strategies for helping.
- Part 2: Applies concepts introduced in Part 1 to develop skills and confidence when responding to problems. Students will practice identifying strategies for helping in video examples and scenarios. Allows students to practice skills in identifying harmful situations and stepping up and acting when they see a problematic event.
- This experience can be offered at any point during the semester

bystander intervention may be found. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. This could be when a person is yelling at or being physically abusive towards another and it is not safe for you to interrupt.

1. Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are ok.
2. Confront people who seclude, hit on, try to make out with, or have sex with people who are incapacitated.
3. Speak up when someone discusses plans to take sexual advantage of another person.
4. Believe someone who discloses sexual assault, abusive behavior, or experience with stalking.
5. Refer people to on or off campus resources listed in this document for support in health, counseling, or with legal assistance.

Risk Reduction

Under the Clery Act Risk reduction is defined as: "options designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction; increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety; and help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence." West Chester does not have a specific program related to risk-reduction. Instead, risk reduction is addressed across numerous programs. The Office of Wellness Promotion, for example, conducts, "Any Ram Cam-Bystander Intervention" as well as "Decisions About Drinking." Each of these programs has within it a risk reduction element.

HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER

Bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. They are "individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up, or do something about it."¹¹ We want to promote a culture of community accountability where bystanders are actively engaged in the prevention of violence without causing further harm. We may not always know what to do even if we want to help. Below is a list¹² of some ways to be an active bystander. Further information regarding

¹¹ Burn, S.M. (2009). A situational model of sexual assault prevention through bystander intervention. *Sex Roles*, 60, 779-792.

¹² Bystander intervention strategies adapted from Stanford University's Office of Sexual Assault & Relationship Abuse

PROCEDURES VICTIMS SHOULD FOLLOW IF A CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING OCCURS

After an incident of sexual assault, dating violence or domestic violence, the victim should consider seeking medical attention as soon as possible at local hospital in Philadelphia or a local hospital near your residence who have Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners on staff. In Pennsylvania, evidence may be collected even if you chose not to make a report to law enforcement¹³

It is important that a victim of sexual assault not bathe, douche, smoke, change clothing or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred within the past 96 hours so that evidence may be preserved that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred/or is occurring or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order. In circumstances of sexual assault, if victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, healthcare providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted infections. Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence are encouraged to also preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking pages, other communications, and keeping pictures, logs or other copies of documents, if they have any, that would be useful to university adjudicators/investigators or police.

Your Physical Safety after an Incident

- Find a place away from the perpetrator or away from any potential danger.
- Seek medical attention (strongly) recommended; you may be injured internally or externally and not be aware.
- Contact the Police: if on-campus call 215-686-8477, if off-campus dial 911. *If you're on campus you can dial 911 as well since the call will be routed back to the dispatcher in Public Safety.*
- Contact the Counseling Center at 610-436-2301 between the hours of 8am to 4pm. After 4pm contact Public Safety who will page the on-call counselor.

You can and should contact the police in the areas where the assault take place if it took place off-campus. Criminal charges can be filed against any type of perpetrator including non-University members which include non-students. Criminal charges are separate from violations of the Student Code of Conduct which applies to West Chester University students. Filing a formal report with the police is necessary when a complainant would like to initiate a criminal investigation by the police. Perpetrators can receive punishment up to and including jail time. Anyone who has been sexually assaulted may choose to pursue both criminal prosecution and University disciplinary processes.

If an incident occurred in the borough of West Chester contact, West Chester Borough Police (610) 696-2700 or 911.

¹³ Under the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, starting in 2009, states must certify that they do not “require a victim of sexual assault to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law enforcement in order to be provided with a forensic medical exam, reimbursement for charges incurred on account of such an exam, or both.”

PRESERVING EVIDENCE

Preserving evidence may be helpful if an individual is considering pursuing criminal charges. Some considerations:

- Post-assault forensic evidence (commonly referred to as a “rape kit”) is best collected within 72 hours of the assault. Individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct should go to the hospital as soon as possible after the assault.
- A Crime Victim Advocate from the Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County can accompany an individual to the hospital to provide support and answer questions on what to expect. To obtain an advocate, call 610-692-7273. The Hospital Emergency room will contact Crime Victims’ Center, if desired.
- Evidence is easier to obtain if the individual has refrained from showering or bathing.
- The hospital will keep the clothes worn during the assault as evidence. Individuals should bring a change of clothes to the hospital or place the clothes they were wearing during the assault in a brown paper bag to the hospital.
- If the use of a “date rape drug” is suspected, the hospital can take a urine sample for evidence collection.
- The individual impacted by a sexual offense does not need to ‘report’ the sexual offense or ‘talk’ to law enforcement in order for the costs to be paid by the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP). The individual will not be charged for hospital services.
- For more information about evidence collection go to: www.rainn.org/get-information/sexual-assault-recovery/rape-kit.

Participating in the collection of evidence does not mean that an individual is obligated to pursue criminal charges, but it does allow for evidence to be preserved in the event the individual chooses that option.

Survivors are encouraged to also preserve other forms of evidence including:

- text messages, emails, and other forms of electronic content;
- unwashed clothing and/or sheets;
- social media posts;
- items in the trash

Such evidence can and would be useful for the police and for a Title IX investigation and for University hearing boards.

IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING EVIDENCE

As time passes, evidence may dissipate or become lost or unavailable, thereby making investigation, possible prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or obtaining protection from abuse orders related to the incident more difficult. If a victim chooses not to make a complaint regarding an incident, they nevertheless should consider speaking with Campus Public Safety or other law enforcement to preserve evidence in the event that the victim decides to report the incident to law enforcement or the University at a later date to assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or that may be helpful in obtaining a protection order, which in Pennsylvania could be a Protection from Abuse Order (PFA) or a Protecting Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation (PSVI).

SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTING FAQS:

Q: What should I do if I am sexually assaulted?

A: Victims of sexual assault may feel traumatized or blame themselves and are reluctant to seek help and proper medical care; it is not the victim's fault. If an individual has been the victim of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking, or thinks they may have been, there are several options for reporting the incident and for obtaining the information, assistance, and support needed for all aspects of recovery, both emotional and physical.

Q: How Do I report a Sexual Assault?

A: there are multiple reporting options available to report.

- The Department Public Safety (610) 436-3311 or 911
- Tashell Jenkins, Esq. Director for Equity and Compliance, West Chester University
114 W. Rosedale Avenue, West Chester, PA 19383610-436-2433
lkingensmith@wcupa.edu

Another option in lieu of the above is completing the Sexual Misconduct Reporting Form using this link [Sexual Misconduct Reporting Form](#), or by filing a report electronically at tix@wcupa.edu

Reporting Incidents of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

If you have been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, you should report the incident promptly to Tashell Jenkins at the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at 114 West Rosedale Ave, or by calling 610-436-2433 or at TJenkins601@wcupa.edu. Reports of all domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking made to Campus Public Safety may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator for investigation regardless of if the complainant chooses to pursue criminal charges.

Q: Do I have to get medical attention?

A: You are not required to seek medical care but it is highly recommended you seek medical attention as soon as possible. You may have internal or external injuries from the assault that may require medical or care or have injuries you are not aware of until later. Taking care of yourself is a step in the healing process. The Department of Public Safety (610-436-3311) will assist with transportation to the hospital if needed. In cases requiring urgent care, contact local emergency services by calling 911.

Q: What if I do not want to make report?

A: Although the University strongly encourages all members of its community to report violations of this policy to law enforcement, ***it is the complainant's (your) choice whether to make such a report and complainants have the right to decline involvement with the police.*** The University will assist the complainant with notifying local police if they so desire, the responsibility of facilitating this contact will be assigned to the West Chester University Detective assigned to the investigation.

Q: If I report a sexual assault, will my name become public? What happens to the information in the report?

A: After reviewing the report, West Chester University may determine there is a serious or ongoing threat to the University will issue a Timely Warning to protect the health or safety of the University

community. The Timely Warning will not contain any identifying information about the person or victim of the sexual assault. The University also uses the submitted reports to collect statistical information for publication in the annual Campus Security Report. **No names or personal identifying information is used in the Campus Security Report.**

Q: Who can make a report of sexual misconduct?

A: Any individual, including a third party, may make a report concerning sexual misconduct. Complainants and third parties are encouraged to [report sexual misconduct](#) as soon as possible to allow the University to respond promptly and effectively.

Q: I made a report, what happens next?

A: The Title IX Coordinator (or designee) has authority to institute corrective measures for reports of alleged violations of this Policy. Mandated reports to the Title IX Coordinator by Officials, Volunteers and Employees shall not automatically result in corrective measures being instituted. Individuals are encouraged to report sexual misconduct directly to the Title IX Coordinator, through the University's electronic and anonymous reporting systems or by filing a Formal Complaint.

Q: Can I report anonymously?

A: Yes. Although the University encourages complainants to make formal reports as outlined above, you may file an anonymous report using the [Sexual Misconduct Reporting Form](#). Anonymous reports, however, greatly limit the University's ability to respond and investigate the report.

PROCEDURES THE UNIVERSITY WILL FOLLOW WHEN A CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING IS REPORTED

The University has procedures in place that serve to be sensitive to victims who report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including informing individuals about their right to file criminal charges as well as the availability of counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and other services on and/or off campus as well as additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant¹⁴ and an accused party, such as changes to housing, academic, protective orders, transportation and working situations, if reasonably available. The University will make such accommodations or protective measures, if the victim requests them and if they are reasonable available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to the West Chester University Police Department or local law enforcement. Students and employees should contact Tashell Jenkins in the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This office handles accommodation at West Chester University.

If a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking is reported to the University, below are the procedures that the University will follow:

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Incident Being Reported	Procedure Institution Will Follow
Sexual Assault	Depending on when reported (immediate vs. delayed report), the institution will provide the complainant with access to medical care The institution will assess the immediate safety needs of the complainant The institution will initiate contact with victim to provide resources and support. The institution will attempt to initiate contact three times with a victim before closing a case. The institution will assist the complainant with contacting local police if the complainant requests AND provide the complainant with contact information for the local police department The institution will provide the complainant with referrals to on and off-campus mental health providers through its initial outreach letter The institution will assess the need to implement interim or long-term protective measures, if appropriate. The institution will provide the victim with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options The institution will provide a No Contact Directive (NCD) between the parties if deemed appropriate If the complainant inquires, the Department of Public Safety will provide instructions on where to file a Protection from Abuse order The institution will provide a copy of the policy applicable to Sexual Assault to the complainant and inform the complainant regarding timeframes for inquiry, investigation, and resolution If a complaint is filed, the Institution will conduct a thorough and complete investigation into the allegations. The institution will inform the complainant of the outcome of the investigation, whether or not the accused will be administratively charged and what the outcome of the hearing is Institution will enforce the anti-retaliation policy and take immediate and separate action against parties that retaliate against a person for complaining of sex-based discrimination or for assisting in the investigation
Stalking	The institution will assess the immediate safety needs of complainant The institution will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND provide the complainant with contact information for local police department. The institution will initiate contact with victim to provide resources and support. The institution will attempt to initiate contact three times with a victim before closing a case. If the complainant inquires, the Department of Public Safety will provide instructions on where to file a Protection from Abuse order The institution will provide written information to complainant on how to preserve evidence The institution will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate The institution will provide the victim with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options The institution will provide a No Contact Directive between the parties if deemed appropriate If a complaint is filed, The institution will conduct a thorough and complete investigation into the allegations.
Dating Violence	The institution will assess the immediate safety needs of complainant The institution will assist the complainant with contacting local police if the complainant requests AND provide the complainant with contact information for local police department If the complainant inquires, the Department of Public Safety will provide instructions on where to file a Protection from Abuse order The institution will provide written information to the complainant on how to preserve evidence The institution will assess the need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate The institution will provide the victim with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options The institution will provide a No Contact Directive between the parties if deemed appropriate If a complaint is filed, The institution will conduct a thorough and complete investigation into the allegations.

Domestic Violence	The institution will assess the immediate safety needs of complainant The institution will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND complainant provided with contact information for local police department If the complainant inquires, the Department of Public Safety will provide instructions on where to file a Protection from Abuse order The institution will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate The institution will provide the victim with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options The institution will provide a No Contact Directive between the parties if deemed appropriate If a complaint is filed, The institution will conduct a thorough and complete investigation into the allegations.
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COUNSELING AND MEDICAL SERVICES AND OTHER AVAILABLE SUPPORT

West Chester University takes your right to privacy seriously. Because the safety of our students, faculty and staff is of our utmost concern, we are not always able to grant complete confidentiality in a sexual misconduct case, however, we will do our best to protect your privacy while meeting the University's legal obligations.

There are resources providing complete confidentiality on and off-campus:

Upon receipt of a report of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, West Chester University will provide written notification to students and employees about existing assistance with and/or information about obtaining resources and services including counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and assistance in notifying appropriate local law enforcement. These resources include the following on-campus and off-campus resources:

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY RESOURCES:

On Campus	Resources Available	Provider	Contact Information
Counseling Center	Crisis Intervention, Psychiatric Services, Consultation, Outreach, Individual Counseling, Group Counseling,	Dr. Rachel Daltry, Director	610-436-2301
Health	Clinical Services- General health care, immunizations, TB testing, medications, sexual health Wellness Promotion - Wellness Education, alcohol/tobacco/ and other drugs, nutrition services	"Clinical Services: Dr Veda Maany Wellness Promotion: Dr Veda Maany"	610-436-2509
Mental Health	Crisis Intervention, Psychiatric Services, Consultation, Outreach	Dr. Rachel Daltry, Director	610-436-2301
Victim Advocacy	Reporting, referrals and support	Crime Victims Center of Chester County	610-692-1926
Legal Assistance	Legal consultation	Dr. Lexie McCarthy	610-436-2361
Visa and Immigration Assistance	Issue the Form 1-20 and DS-2019 for prospective students to apply for the F-1 and J-1 Visa	Angela Howard	610-436-3515
Student Financial Aid	Financial Aid, Work Study, Financial		610-436-2627
University Police	Escorts, Emergency Medical Services, Crime	Chief Raymond Stevenson	610-436-3311
Multicultural Center	Programs, activities, and service	Martin Lacayo	610-436-3273
Director for Equity and Compliance	Sexual Misconduct information, reporting resource	Lynn Klingensmith	610-436-2433

Counseling and Psychological Services (Counseling Center, 610-436- 2301, Lawrence 241) offers confidential counseling to students who have been sexually assaulted or victimized, whether recently or in the past. All counseling is confidential. This means that the counselor cannot speak with others about the student's situation without the student's written permission.

Students are encouraged to contact the Counseling Center (610-436- 2301) or come to the Center to schedule a triage appointment. Triage appointments will take place over the phone. During the triage session, students will discuss their concerns and options for counseling moving forward. Options may include short-term individual counseling (either virtually or in-person) with a Counseling Center counselor, virtual group therapy via the Counseling Center, or obtaining off-campus referrals for longer-term or specialized counseling via their referral specialist. There are no fees for currently enrolled students to use the Counseling Center's services. Visit the Counseling Center [website](#) for hours and additional information.

If a situation occurs after normal business hours, the on-call psychologist may be accessed by contacting Public Safety (610-436-3311); or, Crime Victims' Center of Chester County in West Chester staffs a 24-hour phone line (610-692-7273) that can provide immediate response and support.

WCU Community Mental Health Clinic (CMHC) (610-436-2510, 8th Floor, Wayne Hall) is affiliated with the West Chester University Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) program. CMHC serves as a training center for graduate students in the Psy.D. program and as a clinical research site for faculty in the Psychology Department. As a non-profit training and research facility, CMHC is able to provide low-cost, cutting-edge psychotherapy and testing. Services are provided by graduate students 52 earning a doctorate in Psychology who are closely supervised by experienced, licensed Psychologists. Assessment appointments can be made by contacting the Clinic. For counseling, students will be referred from the Counseling Center for longer-term therapy.

Student Health Services (610-436-2509, Commonwealth Hall, Ground Floor) offers confidential medical care and assistance to students who have experienced sexual assault. Student Health Services is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 6:00pm. Please visit their [website](#) at for additional information. Please contact them at 610-436-2509 to schedule an appointment; some same-day appointments may be available.

Nurse practitioners and physicians receive training to provide appropriate medical treatment and care, as well as discuss available services such as counseling and reporting. Student Health Services offers gynecological exams, pregnancy tests, emergency contraception, HIV tests, and sexually transmitted infection tests. **All standard post-assault medical care will be free of charge.** Student Health Services must report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, but do not need to disclose identifying information.

Post-assault forensic evidence collection (commonly referred to as a "rape kit") is not available at Student Health Services. However, nurse practitioners and physicians can help locate a medical provider who offers this service.

Office of Student Conduct (610-436-3511, Ruby Jones 200)

is responsible for enforcing violations of the Student Code of Conduct. The Office staff can help students, staff, and faculty in submitting reports on any violation of the Student Code of Conduct including sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. The Office also maintains a list (on their website) of Process and Policy Advisors who can provide guidance and assistance to students throughout the investigative and conduct processes.

Public Safety (610-436-3311, 690 South Church Street) Public Safety is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. University police officers will make all efforts to investigate any crimes that occur on campus within the scope of the law and will provide support and referral options. Persons who have experienced sexual misconduct may want to consider preserving all physical evidence, regardless of whether they want to press charges. Choosing not to press charges immediately does not prohibit one from doing so in the future, and physical evidence will be important to the case. University police will honor all Protection from Abuse Orders and No Contact Directives, as copies of these are kept on file with the department. For off-campus incidents, Public Safety Officers can assist in identifying and connecting with the municipality where the crime may have occurred.

Title IX Coordinator/Director for Equity and Compliance (610-436- 2433, 114. W. Rosedale Avenue) helps students, faculty, or staff in matters regarding sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. The Director for Equity and Compliance can:

- discuss situations that may give rise to a complaint of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct and provide options for addressing the situation;
- oversees fact-finding investigations into complaints of sexual misconduct; • oversees investigations of complaints of sexual harassment against University employees;
- provide interim measures for issues of discrimination, sexual harassment, or sexual misconduct;
- facilitate adjustments to on-campus transportation, parking, or work and other measures to ensure the safety of both parties, and
- assist University personnel and students with questions about sexual misconduct policies and procedures. In addition, the Title IX Coordinator/Director for Equity and Compliance monitors and oversees complaints of discrimination and harassment in compliance with federal regulations.

ADDITIONAL ON-CAMPUS RESOURCES

- **Department of Athletics (610-436-3573, Sturzebecker HSC 220)** Students may choose to contact them for help with filing a report and locating appropriate resources such as medical care and counseling.
- **Center for Women and Gender Equity (610-436-2111, Lawrence 220)** offers support, resources and referrals for those impacted by sexual misconduct.
- **Center for Trans and Queer Advocacy (610-436-3147, Sykes 238)** offers support services for students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and their allies.
- **Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (610-436-2117, Sykes**

238) Students may choose to contact the Director for assistance in submitting a report and to identify appropriate resources.

- **Lawrence A Dowdy Multicultural Center (610-436-3273, Sykes 003)** offers a supportive environment for multicultural students at West Chester University. The Dowdy Center coordinates services, programs, and referrals that enhance the academic and personal development of students of color. In matters of sexual misconduct, the Dowdy Center provides information and referral/reporting assistance to students.
- **Office of Residence Life (610-436-3307, Lawrence 202)** The Department of Residence Life and Housing Services has live-in staff available to students involved with sexual misconduct. The live-in staff includes Graduate Hall Directors (GHD), Graduate Assistants (GA), and Resident Assistants (RA). Staff members assist with room changes with the Title IX Coordinator/Director for Equity and Compliance.
- **Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (OSSD) (610-436-2564, Lawrence 223)** Students may choose to contact the Director for assistance with submitting a report and identifying appropriate resources.
- **Learning Assistance and Resource Center (LARC) (610-436-2535, Lawrence 224)** is a resource to provide quality academic support services which help students become independent, 55 active learners who achieve academic success. The LARC can assist in tutoring and other supports to continue to be successful academically.
- **On-Campus Legal Advice** - currently enrolled students can use RamConnect to meet with a lawyer for free. Available appointments are scheduled for the full year and are listed on [RamConnect](#). Please see their [website](#) at for additional information.

The lawyer will provide a 15-minute consultation on a variety of civil and criminal issues - landlord/tenant, leases, citations, etc. This free service is offered by appointment only. The consultation does not extend into a courtroom. If further legal aid is needed, the lawyer can suggest professionals for consideration, or refer students to the Lawyer Referral Service of the Chester County Bar Association. Please note that the lawyer is prohibited from taking any student cases as this may pose a conflict of interest.

In addition to the numerous services on campus, there are many additional services and organizations available for those who have experienced sexual misconduct.

- **Crime Victims' Center of Chester County (CVC)** is located at 135-137 W. Market Street. The CVC provides free and confidential support to members of the West Chester community who have been victimized. They offer court and hospital accompaniment, and they assign an advocate to help victims, significant others, and family members through the entire process. They have a 24-hour hotline for sexual assault (610-692-7273). Their business hours are Monday through Friday 9:00 am –5:00 pm.
- **Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVC)** provides support for individuals and families who have been abused, physically or sexually, by someone whom they share a residency with, and/or with whom they have had an intimate relationship. DVC can assist with emergency shelter and long-term housing needs for victims. They also provide a wide range of legal services, including assistance with obtaining a "PFA" (or Protection From Abuse order) and court accompaniment. They can be contacted on their 24-hour hotline at 610-431-1430.
- **National Center for Victims of Crime, Stalking Resource Center** provides information and resources for victims of stalking. The helpline number is 1-800-FYI-CALL. You can also visit their website at www.ncvc.org/
- **Male Survivor** is an organization dedicated to providing support for male victims of sexual assault. Visit their website at www.malesurvivor.org
- The Network La Red is an organization committed to supporting the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community with information on and resources about battered relationships. They can be reached on their hotline (617-742-4911). Or, visit their website at www.thenetworklared.org.
- **The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)** is a nationwide organization that provides free and confidential support for victims of sexual assault. They offer immediate crisis help and information about recovery. They can be reached on their hotline (1-800-656-HOPE), or by visiting their website and online hotline at www.rainn.org.

OFF-CAMPUS RESOURCES

Off Campus	Resources Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
Counseling	Individual Counseling, Group Counseling, Crisis Intervention, Psychiatric Services, Consultation, Outreach, Alcohol Awareness Education, Drug and Alcohol Counseling	Chester County Counseling Center	610-933-8880
Health	Emergency and non-emergency medical services	Emergency and non-emergency medical services	610-431-5000 or 911
Mental Health	Individual Counseling, Group Counseling, Crisis Intervention, Psychiatric Services, Consultation, Outreach, Alcohol Awareness	Chester County Mental Health Services	610-344-6265 610-933-8880"
Victim Advocacy	Reporting, Referrals, and Support	"Crime Victims Center of Chester County Domestic Violence Center of Chester County"	610-692-1926 610-431-1430"
Legal Assistance	Legal consultation	Legal Aid of SE PA	610-436-4510
Visa and Immigration Assistance	Issue form I-20 and DS-2019 for prospective students to apply for the F-1 and J-1 visa	HIAS of Pennsylvania	215-832-0900
Police	Reporting, Emergency medical services, Crime prevention	West Chester Borough Police	610-692-2700 or 911
Police	Reporting, Emergency medical services, Crime prevention	West Goshen Township Police	610-696-7400 or 911

CONFIDENTIALITY

Complainants may request that directory information on file with the University be withheld by request. Such requests should be forwarded to the Office of the University Registrar in the Kershner Student Services Center located at 25 University Avenue.

Regardless of whether a complainant has opted out of allowing the University to share “directory information,” personally identifiable information (PII) about the complainant and other necessary parties will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons with a specific need to know who is investigating/adjudicating the complaint or delivering resources or support services to the complainant, including accommodations and protective measures.

For example, publicly available record-keeping for purposes of Clery Act reporting and disclosures will be made without the inclusion of personal identifying information (PII) about the victim, as defined in 42 USC 1395 (a) (20). By only sharing personally identifiable information with individuals on a need-to-know basis, the institution will maintain as confidential, any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

West Chester University does not publish the name of crime victims nor house identifiable information regarding complainants in the campus police department’s Daily Crime Log or in the annual crime statistics that are disclosed in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. Furthermore, if a Timely Warning Notice is issued on the basis of a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, the name of the victim and other personally identifiable information about the victim will be withheld.

Complainants may request that directory information on file be removed from public sources. Students can self-elect to restrict using self-service online in their University account or by contacting the Registrar. Employees may have the ability to restrict identifying information and should contact Human Resources for further information and assistance.

All publicly available record keeping is completed without the inclusion of PII by maintaining identifiable information on secure networks and databases in the Department of Public Safety, the Office of Student Conduct, and the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

CRIMINAL REPORTING OPTIONS

A Complainant may also seek to initiate a criminal complaint, independent of or parallel with any report made to the University.

West Chester University Police, 610-436-3311 or x3311 Peoples Building, 690 South Church Street, West Chester, PA 19383

You may also contact the police department in the city or town in which the incident occurred.

Please note The University’s policy, definitions, and burden of proof may differ from Pennsylvania criminal law. Neither law enforcement’s decision on whether to prosecute nor the outcome of any criminal prosecution is determinative of whether sexual misconduct has occurred under this Policy. In cases where there is a simultaneous law enforcement investigation, there may be circumstances when the University may need to temporarily delay its investigation while law enforcement gathers evidence. However, the

University will generally proceed with Formal Complaints even during the time of a pending law enforcement investigation. As the University may not be informed of reports made with law enforcement agencies outside of West Chester University Police, a separate report must be filed with the Title IX Coordinator for University involvement.

EXTERNAL REPORTING OPTIONS

A person may also file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights regarding an alleged violation of Title IX by or calling 1-800- 421-3481: 1-877-521-2172 TTY or emailing OCR.Philadelphia@ed.gov OR visiting <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html>.

A person may also file a complaint with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission by calling 717-787-9780 for the Harrisburg Regional Office; 412-565- 5395 for the Pittsburgh Regional Office; or 215-560-2496 for the Philadelphia Regional Office; or by visiting <https://www.phrc.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

Employees may also file a charge with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regarding an alleged violation of Title VII by calling 1-800-669-4000 or visiting <https://www.eeoc.gov/employees/howtofile.cfm>. The University may not be informed of reports made with external agencies.]

Making a report is different from filing a Formal Complaint, which is discussed in detail below. A report is defined as notification of an incident of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator by any person. A report may be accompanied by a request for (1) Supportive Measures; (2) no further action; (3) filing a Formal Complaint with a request to initiate an informal resolution process; and/or (4) a request to initiate an informal resolution process after filing a Formal Complaint.

RETALIATION

West Chester University prohibits retaliation against any person for using reporting procedure(s), or for filing, testifying, assisting, or participating in any investigation or proceeding involving allegations of University misconduct. Any retaliatory behavior should be reported immediately to the Office of Student Conduct or the Title IX Coordinator/Director of Equity and Compliance. Any person, including third parties, who violates this retaliation policy, will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination if they are an employee, and/or expulsion if they are a student.

SUPPORTIVE MEASURES AND ACCOMMODATIONS FOR COMPLAINANTS AND RESPONDENTS

Upon receipt of a report of sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence sexual assault, or stalking- supportive measures will be offered in *writing* through an outreach letter sent by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance. The written notification will include information regarding the accommodation options, available assistance in requesting accommodations, and how to request accommodations and protective measures (i.e., the notification will include the name and contact information for the individual or office that should be contacted to request the accommodations).

At the victim’s request, and to the extent of the victim’s cooperation and consent, university offices will work cooperatively to assist the victim in obtaining accommodations. If reasonably available, a victim may be

offered changes to academic, living, working, protective measures or transportation situations regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement. Examples of options for a potential change to the academic situation may be to transfer to a different section of a class, withdraw and take a class at another time if there is no option for moving to a different section, etc. Potential changes to living situations may include moving to a different room or residence hall. Possible changes to work situations may include changing working hours. Possible changes in transportation may include having the student or employee park in a different location, assisting the student or employee with a safety escort, etc.

To request changes to academic, living, transportation and/or working situations or protective measures, a victim should contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance by calling 610-436-2433, going to their office at 114 West Rosedale Avenue or emailing Tashell Jenkins, Director for Equity and Compliance at TJenkins601@wcupa.edu. If the victim wishes to receive assistance in requesting this accommodation, she or he should contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance at the location and number listed above. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary and non-punitive individualized services designed to restore or preserve access to the University's Education Programs or Activities without unduly burdening the other Party.

Supportive Measures will be offered, as appropriate, to the Complainant and/or the Respondent, regardless of whether a Formal Complaint is filed. Supportive measures may include but are not limited to counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, campus escort services, restrictions on contact between the parties (no contact orders), changes in work or housing locations, leaves of absence, and increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

EMERGENCY REMOVAL FOR STUDENTS

1. The University retains the authority to remove a Respondent from its Education Programs or Activities on an emergency basis. This action is referred to as emergency removal.
2. Before imposing an emergency removal on a student Respondent, the University will:
 - A. undertake an individualized safety and risk analysis; and
 - B. determine that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of covered sexual misconduct justifies a removal.
3. If the University imposes an emergency removal on a student Respondent, the University will provide the Respondent with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal.
 - A. The University will provide written notice of the emergency removal and applicable charges.
 - B. The University will provide an opportunity for the Respondent to appeal that decision to an appropriate Hearing Officer or designee within 10 days of the imposition of the emergency removal.
 - C. The designated University Hearing Officer will hear the evidence and determine whether there is sufficient evidence to support the conclusion that the Respondent poses an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of covered sexual misconduct and that, based on that threat, removal is the appropriate course of action.

University learns of evidence that demonstrates that the emergency action is no longer justified after the emergency removal is imposed against a student Respondent, the University will take prompt action to rescind the emergency removal.

4. All emergency removals will comply with requirements under Chapter 505 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code concerning Student Personnel.

ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES

The University retains the authority to place Employees on administrative leave consistent with applicable requirements of relevant University policies and collective bargaining agreements.

OTHER LEGAL REMEDIES AVAILABLE

Besides the remedies offered by the University (e.g. emergency removal) a student or employee can petition the Chester County Court of Common Pleas for Protection from Abuse (PFA) or a Protection from Sexual Violence or Intimidation (PSVI) order. These orders can supplement the relief offered by campus authorities. Information on both actions including the times when these actions can be filed can be found on the [Court of Common Pleas website](#). West Chester University police officers as well as the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion also can inform students and employees about filing a petition.

Once the Court signs the order it is a good idea to give a copy of the order to the West Chester University Police Department and your local police department. If the defendant violates the order on the campus of West Chester University the West Chester University Police Department can arrest the defendant for Indirect Criminal Contempt and, if the order prohibits the defendant from entering campus, arrest the defendant for trespass. Any person who obtains an order of protection from another state should bring the order to the Department of Public Safety.

UNIVERSITY-ISSUED NO CONTACT DIRECTIVE

In addition to, or in lieu of a PFA or a PSVI order the University can issue a No Contact Directive which is an official written instruction issued by the University administrator restricting or limiting contact (in person, electronic, via social media or 3rd parties) between individuals. A No Contact Directive can be issued between students, between students and employees, and between employees.

The University may issue an institutional no contact order if deemed appropriate or at the request of the victim or accused. No contact orders are issued mutually meaning neither party can contact the other either directly or through third parties or social media. If the University receives a report that such an institutional no contact order has been violated, the University will initiate disciplinary proceedings appropriate to the status of the accused (student, employee, etc.) and will impose sanctions if the accused is found responsible for violating the no contact order.

The University complies with Pennsylvania law in recognizing orders for Protection from Abuse (PFA) and Protecting Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation (PSVI) Any person who obtains a PFA or PSVI order in Pennsylvania should provide a copy to Campus Police and the Office of the Title IX Coordinator. A complainant may also register a foreign (issued by a comparable court in another state) order of protection. The University cannot apply for a legal order of protection, no contact order or restraining order for a victim from the applicable jurisdiction(s).

TYPES OF ORDERS AVAILABLE IN Pennsylvania

Type Of Order	Rights of Victims	Institution's Responsibilities
Protection from Abuse	Prohibit defendant from contacting the plaintiff or minor children (if applicable) in their place of business, or school, eviction from residence, prohibit defendant from abusing plaintiff or minor children (if the children are protected parties).	Enforce the terms of the order and if the defendant violates the order while in the jurisdiction of the West Chester University Police Department will arrest the defendant.
No contact directive issued by the institution	Restricts or limits contact (in person, electronic, via social media or 3rd parties) between the parties to the directive	Enforce the no contact directive and assess charges and sanctions through the conduct process should the no contact directive be violated

Protection from abuse orders are available through The Chester County Court of Common Pleas or by contacting the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County by calling 610-431-1430.

Protection Orders available in Pennsylvania

Type of Order:	Who Can File For One:	Court:	Based On:
Protection from Abuse order (PFA) In effect up to 3 years, can be extended by petition and order 23 Pa. C.S. § 6101 et seq.	Family or household members, sexual or intimate partners or persons who share biological parenthood • Spouses, former spouses • Parent, child, • People who have kids together • Intimate partners	Chester County Court of Common Pleas	(1) Attempting to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, rape, involuntary deviate sexual intercourse, sexual assault, statutory sexual assault, aggravated indecent assault, indecent assault or incest with or without a deadly weapon. (2) Placing another in reasonable fear of imminent serious bodily injury. (3) The infliction of false imprisonment pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. § 2903 (relating to false imprisonment). (4) Physically or sexually abusing minor children, including such terms as defined in Chapter 63 (relating to child protective services). (5) Knowingly engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts toward another person, including following the person, without proper authority, under circumstances which place the person in reasonable fear of bodily injury. The definition of this paragraph applies only to proceedings commenced under this title and is inapplicable to any criminal prosecutions commenced under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses).
Protection of Victims of Sexual Violence or Intimidation Order in effect for up to 3 years, can be extended by petition and order 42 Pa. C.S. § 62A01, et seq.	Any person who is a victim of sexual violence as defined in the statute who is not a family or household member with the defendant. Any person who is a victim of intimidation as defined in the statute between persons who are not family or household members.	Chester County Court of Common Pleas or any court with jurisdiction over the parties	Sexual Violence as defined in the statute, or Intimidation as defined in the statute.

ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS: RIGHTS & OPTIONS

Regardless of whether a victim elects to pursue a criminal complaint or whether the offense is alleged to have occurred on or off campus, the university will assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and will provide each victim with a written explanation of their rights and options. Such written information will include:

- The complainant has the right to seek medical treatment to address physical and mental health and to preserve evidence
- Complainants and witnesses of sexual misconduct have the right to be assisted by the University in notifying either University law enforcement or local law enforcement authorities of sexual misconduct or they can decline to notify such authorities
- At all times the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties;
- In the outreach letter the institution provides a list of resources through a link in the letter that includes notification to students and employees about victim services within the institution and in the community;
- both parties, complainant and respondent, have the right to request Supportive Measures from the University, which may include interim contact restrictions and
- the University includes in its outreach letter a link to the full text of the institution's sexual misconduct policy which includes an explanation of the procedures for institutional disciplinary action

PROCESSES FOR ADJUDICATING COMPLAINTS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DATING VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND STALKING¹⁵

The University's full policies and procedures regarding reports of sexual harassment, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking can be found at the following links:

[Sexual Misconduct Policy](#)

[Sexual Misconduct Policy \(Non Title IX\)](#)

PROCESS DETERMINATION

Based upon the Final Rule effective August 14, 2021, certain violations have regulatory standards that must be met to proceed under Title IX. The University's Sexual Misconduct Policy contains violations that may meet both regulatory and non-regulatory definitions. Under the Final Rule the University is required to dismiss allegations of not meeting the established regulatory federal guidelines.

Dismissal of any violations constituting Regulatory Prohibited Conduct will not affect the University's ability to proceed with an investigation of charges categorized as Non-Regulatory or other charges under this Policy or any other University Policy.

West Chester University uses one hearing format for cases that are either regulatory or non-regulatory. Thus, while the steps and investigations may be slightly different, the hearing procedure is identical for both types of sexual misconduct.

STANDARD OF EVIDENCE

Regardless of whether the conduct is regulatory or non-regulatory, all complaints filed with the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance will be judged using the ***preponderance of the evidence standard***, which means, it is more likely than not that University policy has been violated.

Adjudication proceedings will include a prompt, fair and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result. In all instances, the process will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the institution's policy and that is transparent to the accuser and the accused. Usually, the resolution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking complaints are completed within the timeframe specified in each policy the institution maintains. However, each procedure allows for extensions of timeframes for good cause with written notice to the accuser and the accused of the delay and the reason for the delay. University officials involved in the investigation or adjudication of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking complaints are trained through the Student Conduct Institute of State University of New York (annually on the issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as well as how to investigate and the hearing process that protects the safety of the victim and promotes accountability. Furthermore, each policy provides that:

The complainant and the accused will have timely notice for meetings at which the complainant or accused, or both, may be present;

The complainant, the accused and appropriate officials will have timely and equal access to any information that will be used during formal and informal disciplinary meeting and hearings;

The institutional disciplinary procedures will not be conducted by officials who have a conflict of interest or bias for or against the complainant or the accused;

The complainant and the accused will have the same opportunities to have others present during any institutional disciplinary proceeding. The complainant and the accused each have the opportunity to be advised by an advisor of their choice at any stage of the process and to be accompanied by that advisor to any related meeting or proceeding. The University will not limit the choice of advisor or presence for either the complainant or the accused in any meeting or institutional disciplinary proceeding.

The complainant and the accused will be notified simultaneously, in writing, of the any initial, interim and final decision of any disciplinary proceeding; and

Where an appeal is permitted under the applicable policy, the complainant and the accused will be notified simultaneously in writing, of the procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the result of the institutional disciplinary proceeding. When an appeal is filed, the complainant and the accused will be notified simultaneously in writing of any change to the result prior to the time that it becomes final as well as of the final result once the appeal is resolved.

¹⁵ The adjudicatory and investigatory procedures in this report apply regardless if the student is enrolled at the Philadelphia Center or Main Campus.

PROCEDURES FOR TITLE IX, I.E. REGULATORY VIOLATIONS¹⁶

THE FORMAL COMPLAINT.

The Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process is initiated by a Complainant providing the Title IX Coordinator a written, signed Formal Complaint describing the facts alleged.

The timeframe for the Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process under this Policy begins with the filing of a Formal Complaint and will be concluded within a reasonably prompt manner, and usually no longer than 90 days after the filing of the Formal Complaint, provided that the Process may be extended for a good reason, as set forth more fully in the Continuances and Granting Extensions section. Appeals may extend the timeframe for resolution.

To file a Formal Complaint, a Complainant must provide the Title IX Coordinator a written, signed complaint describing the facts alleged. If a Complainant does not wish to make a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator may determine a Formal Complaint is necessary. West Chester University will inform the Complainant of this decision in writing, and the Complainant need not participate in the process further but will receive all notices issued under this Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process. ***PLEASE NOTE: The Title IX Coordinator does not lose impartiality solely due to signing a Formal Complaint.***

A Complainant who files a Formal Complaint may elect, at any time, to address the matter through the Informal Resolution Process (see the **Informal Resolution** section below).

NOTICE OF ALLEGATIONS

Once the formal complaint is filed the Title IX Coordinator will draft and provide a written Notice of Allegations to any Party alleged to have violated this Policy. Such notice will occur as soon as practicable, but no more than 10 days, after the University receives a Formal Complaint of the allegations, if there are no extenuating circumstances. The Parties will be notified by their University email accounts if they are a Student or Employee, and by other reasonable means if they are neither.

The Notice of Allegations will include the following:

- a. Notice of the University's Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process including any Informal Resolution process and a hyperlink to a copy of the process.
- b. Notice of the allegations potentially constituting violations(s) of any University policy, and sufficient details known at the time the Notice of Allegations is issued, such as the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, including the Complainant; the conduct allegedly constituting a policy violation; and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known.
- c. 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 hearing.
- d. A statement that the Parties may have an Advisor of their choice.
- e. A statement that before the conclusion of the investigation, the Parties may inspect and review evidence obtained as part of the investigation

that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Formal Complaint, including the evidence upon which the University does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and evidence that both tends to prove or disprove the allegations, whether obtained from a Party or other source.

- f. Individuals are prohibited from knowingly filing a false report or making misrepresentations. If, following an investigation and hearing as appropriate under applicable policy, a person is found to have willfully filed a bad faith report or made misrepresentations as part of a resolution process, the party may be subject to appropriate Disciplinary Sanctions under the Code of Conduct in the case of Students or other relevant University policy in the case of Officials, Employees or Volunteers.

The University will provide sufficient time for the Parties to review the Notice of Allegations and prepare a response before any initial interview.

ALLEGATIONS FALLING UNDER TWO POLICIES

If a Formal Complaint against a Respondent who is a **Student** contains allegations of a violation of any of the listed Sexual Misconduct Violations in this Policy, as well as any other violation in the Student Code of Conduct, the Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process set forth in this Policy will be applied in the investigation and adjudication of all of the allegations. If all of the alleged Sexual Misconduct Violations of this Policy are dismissed, and the remaining underlying allegations, if true, would violate another University policy or the University's Student Code of Conduct, the matter may be referred for further action by the University's Office of Student Conduct, as appropriate.

If a Formal Complaint against a Respondent who is an **Employee** contains allegations of violations of Regulatory Prohibited Conduct (Regulatory Quid Pro Quo, Regulatory Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment, Regulatory Dating Violence, Regulatory Domestic Violence, Regulatory Sexual Assault and Regulatory Stalking), the Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process set forth in this Policy will be applied in the investigation and adjudication of those allegations. For all other allegations, the University will follow applicable requirements in University policy and relevant collective bargaining agreements for the resolution of the other allegations contained in the Formal Complaint.

If a Formal Complaint against a Respondent who is an **Official** or **Volunteer** contains any allegations under this Policy, the University or System will follow applicable requirements in University or System policies or procedures and standards for resolution of the allegations contained in the Formal Complaint.

DETERMINING JURISDICTION AND MANDATORY DISMISSAL FOR CERTAIN ALLEGATIONS

For alleged violations of Regulatory Prohibited Conduct (**Regulatory Quid Pro Quo¹⁷, Regulatory Hostile Environment Sexual Harassment, Regulatory Dating Violence, Regulatory Domestic Violence, Regulatory Sexual Assault and Regulatory Stalking**) the following elements will be determined in the reasonable determination of the Title IX Coordinator:

1. The conduct is alleged to have occurred in the United States;

¹⁶ A regulatory violation is one that meets the jurisdictional elements listed below under 'Determining Jurisdiction and Mandatory Dismissal for Certain Allegations'.

¹⁷ For quid pro quo sexual harassment allegations, the designation of "Regulatory" is dependent on the employment of the Respondent. For hostile environment sexual harassment allegations, the designation of "Regulatory" is dependent upon the impact of the unwelcome conduct on the individual targeted.

2. The conduct is alleged to have occurred in the University's Education Program or Activity; AND
3. The alleged conduct, if true, would constitute covered Regulatory Prohibited Conduct, as defined in this Policy.

If all the elements are met the University will investigate the allegations under the processes set forth in the Sexual Misconduct Policy. If any one of these elements is not met, the Title IX Coordinator will notify the parties the specific allegation contained in the Formal Complaint does not meet the required jurisdictional requirements under the Final Rule and is being dismissed. Any Party may appeal a dismissal using the appellate process.

DISCRETIONARY DISMISSALS FOR ALL ALLEGATIONS

The Title IX Coordinator may dismiss a Formal Complaint brought under this Policy, or any specific allegations raised within that Formal Complaint, at any time during the investigation or hearing, if:

1. A Complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that they would like to withdraw the Formal Complaint or any allegations raised in the Formal Complaint;
2. The Respondent is no longer enrolled in, associated with or employed by the University; or,
3. If specific circumstances prevent the University from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding the Formal Complaint or allegations within the Formal Complaint.

NOTICE OF DISMISSAL

Upon reaching a decision that any specific allegation contained in the Formal Complaint will be dismissed, the University will promptly send written notice of the dismissal and the reason for the dismissal, simultaneously to the parties through their institutional or other provided email account. It is the responsibility of parties to maintain and regularly check their email accounts.

In the event a Formal Complaint is dismissed, the University reserves the right to move the case forward with nonregulatory violations of the Student Code of Conduct. Such a decision will be included in the Notice of Dismissal.

APPEALS OF DISMISSALS OF FORMAL COMPLAINTS

The procedures for filing appeals differ slightly depending on whether the respondent is an employee or a student.

Appeals of a dismissal of a formal complaint where the respondent is a *student*

Each party may appeal the dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any included allegation, or, after a hearing, a determination of responsibility on the following grounds:

- 1) A procedural irregularity under the University policy or procedures that affected the hearing outcome.
- 2) New evidence that was not reasonably available through the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time of the hearing or dismissal of the Formal Complaint that could affect the outcome of the matter.
- 3) The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Decision Maker(s)/Hearing Officer(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against

an individual party, or for or against complainants or respondents in general, that affected the outcome of the matter.

- 4) The Disciplinary Sanction imposed was grossly disproportionate to the violation.

The Fourth ground "[t]he Disciplinary Sanction imposed was grossly disproportionate to the violation", would be pleaded only after a finding of responsibility was made.

Appeals must be filed in writing within 5 days of being notified of the decision and must indicate the ground or grounds for the appeal.

The submission of an appeal stays any Disciplinary Sanctions for the pendency of an appeal. Supportive Measures and remote learning opportunities remain available during the pendency of the appeal.

If a party appeals, the University will notify the other party in writing of the appeal as soon as practicable, however, the time for an appeal shall be offered equitably to all parties and shall not be extended for any party solely because the other party filed an appeal. *If the basis of the appeal is the Disciplinary Sanction imposed was grossly disproportionate to the violation, the other Party will be given 5 days to respond to the Disciplinary Sanctions basis of appeal after being notified of the appeal.*

Appeals will be decided by the University Appeals Board, which will be free of conflict of interest and bias, and will not serve as an Investigator, Title IX Coordinator, Advisor, or Decision Maker/Hearing Officer in the same matter.

The appealing party must meet its burden to demonstrate the outcome was affected by a preponderance of the evidence. The role of the University Appeals Board is not to reweigh the evidence. The University Appeals Board will confine their review to the basis of the appeal alleged and may modify the sanction on the basis that the severity of the sanction is disproportionate to the violation(s). In the event a Disciplinary Sanction is modified, the other party will be notified of the modified Disciplinary Sanction.

The outcome of the appeal will be provided in writing simultaneously to both Parties and include the rationale for the decision.

Appeals of a dismissal of a formal complaint where the respondent is an *employee*

Each Party may appeal the dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any included allegations or a determination of responsibility on the following grounds:

- 1) A procedural irregularity under the University policy or procedures that affected the hearing outcome.
- 2) New evidence that was not reasonably available through the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time of the hearing or dismissal of the Formal Complaint that could affect the outcome of the matter.
- 3) The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Decision Maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against an individual party, or for or against complainants or respondents in general, that affected the outcome of the matter.

Appeals must be filed in writing within 5 days of being notified of the decision and must indicate the grounds for the appeal.

Supportive Measures remain available during the pendency of the appeal.

If a Party appeals, the University will notify the other Party in writing of the appeal as soon as practicable, however the time for an appeal shall be offered equitably to all Parties and shall not be extended for any Party solely because the other Party filed an appeal.

Appeals will be decided by an Appeals Board who will be free of conflict of interest and bias, and will not serve as an Investigator, Title IX Coordinator, Advisor, or Decision Maker in the same matter.

The appealing party must meet its burden to demonstrate the outcome was affected by a preponderance of the evidence. The role of an Appeals Board is not to reweigh the evidence. The Appeals Board will confine their review to the basis of the appeal alleged.

G. The outcome of the appeal will be provided in writing simultaneously to both parties and include the rationale for the decision for either upholding the original dismissal or overturning the dismissal decision.

INFORMAL RESOLUTION

Informal means of resolution, such as mediation, may be used as an alternative to the formal investigation and hearing procedures. Informal resolution is a voluntary process and may be used only where a Formal Complaint has been filed. Upon written agreement of all parties, informal resolution may be initiated at any time prior to finding of responsibility in a hearing and may be terminated at any time prior to final resolution. If the informal process is terminated, the Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process, which includes an investigation and hearing, will proceed. Once a final resolution has been reached and documented and signed by all parties, the resolution cannot be appealed.

Informal resolution may **NOT** be utilized when a Student files a Formal Complaint against a University Employee, Volunteer or Official under the Sexual Misconduct Policy.

ADVISOR

Both a Complainant and a Respondent are entitled to one advisor of their choice who can assist them during all phases of a dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking case. An advisor is an individual who may be present to provide support to a Party throughout an investigation and/or hearing. Advisors may accompany a Party to any meeting or hearing they are required or eligible to attend, but may not speak for the Party, except for the purposes of cross-examination. Each party is responsible for coordinating and scheduling with their choice of Advisor.

The Advisor may be an attorney or a union representative when applicable. If a party does not have an Advisor of choice present for a hearing, the University will appoint an Advisor for the limited purposes of conducting cross-examination. If a Party does not attend the hearing, the Party's Advisor may appear and conduct cross-examination on the Party's behalf. If neither a Party nor their Advisor appears at the hearing, the University will provide an Advisor to appear on behalf of the non-appearing Party for the limited purposes of conducting cross-examination. The Advisor is not prohibited from having a conflict of interest or bias in favor of or against a Party, nor is the Advisor prohibited from being a Witness in the Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process.

THE FORMAL PROCESS

The Formal process under both regulatory and non-regulatory violations consists of two separate yet equally important parts- the investigation that establishes the facts of the case and the hearing process that examines those facts. Each policy has its own, slightly different investigatory process.

THE INVESTIGATION

1. GENERAL RULES OF INVESTIGATIONS

The Title IX Coordinator will assign an Investigator to perform an investigation of the conduct alleged under a reasonably prompt timeframe, following the issuance of the Notice of Allegations. West Chester University and not the Parties, has the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence, i.e., the responsibility of showing a violation of this Policy has occurred. Either party may decide not to share their account of what occurred or may decide not to participate in an investigation or hearing.

This does not shift the burden of proof away from the University and does not indicate responsibility. West Chester University cannot access, consider, or disclose medical records without a waiver from the party (or parent, if applicable) to whom the records belong or of whom the records include information. The University will provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence, (i.e., evidence that tends to prove and disprove the allegations). See the **Inspection and Review of Evidence** section below.

2. INSPECTION AND REVIEW OF EVIDENCE

Prior to the completion of the investigation, the parties will have an equal opportunity to inspect and review the evidence obtained through the investigation. The purpose of the inspection and review process is to allow each party the equal

opportunity to meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to issuance of the investigation report.

Evidence that will be available for inspection and review by the parties will be any evidence that is directly related to the allegations raised in the Formal Complaint. It will include any:

- Evidence that is relevant, even if that evidence does not end up being relied upon by the Decision Maker(s) in making a determination regarding responsibility;
- inculpatory or exculpatory evidence (i.e., evidence that tends to prove or disprove the allegations) that is directly related to the allegations, whether obtained from a Party or other source.

The University will send the evidence to each Party and each Party's Advisor, if any, to inspect and review through an electronic format or a hard copy. The University is not under an obligation to use any specific process or technology to provide the evidence and shall have the sole discretion in terms of determining format and any restrictions or limitations on access.

The Parties will have 10 days to inspect and review the evidence and submit a written response by email to the Investigator. This response should include any new or additional evidence the Party would like

the Investigator to consider. The University will provide copies of the Parties' written responses, and any new or additional evidence provided, to the other Party and their Advisor.

The other Party will have 5 days to inspect, review, and respond to the new or additional evidence through a written response to the Investigator. The University will provide copies of the Party's supplemental written response to the other Party and their Advisor. The Investigator will consider the parties' written responses before completing the Investigative Report. Parties may request a reasonable extension of the time to submit a written response, which may be denied at the sole discretion of the Investigator, in consultation with the Title IX Coordinator.

The Investigator has 10 days to generate a report or after the responses to additional evidence are due or, alternatively, may provide the Parties and their Advisors with written notice extending the investigation and explaining the reason for the extension.

The parties and their Advisors are encouraged not to disseminate the Investigative Report or photograph or otherwise copy any of the evidence subject to inspection and review or use such evidence for any purpose unrelated to the Sexual Misconduct Resolution Process.

Any evidence subject to inspection and review will be available at any hearing, including for purposes of cross-examination.

3. SEXUAL MISCONDUCT INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

The Investigator will create an Investigative Report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.

The Investigative Report is not intended to catalog all evidence obtained by the Investigator, but only to provide a fair summary of that evidence.

Only relevant evidence (including both inculpatory and exculpatory – i.e., tending to prove and disprove the allegations – relevant evidence) will be referenced in the Investigative Report.

Evidence obtained in the investigation that is determined in the reasoned judgment of the Investigator not to be directly related to the allegations in the Formal Complaint will be included in the appendices to the investigative report.

4. ONGOING NOTICE

If, in the course of an investigation, the University decides to investigate allegations about either Party that are not included in the Notice of Allegations and are otherwise covered Sexual Misconduct Violations falling within this Policy or other violations of the University's Student Code of Conduct, the University will notify the Parties of the additional allegations by their University email accounts or other reasonable means.

The Parties will be provided sufficient time to review the additional allegations to prepare a response before any initial interview regarding those additional charges.

THE HEARING

West Chester University uses one hearing format for cases where the conduct is determined to be regulatory or non-regulatory. Thus, while the steps and investigations may be slightly different, the adjudicatory process is identical for both types of sexual misconduct.

1. NOTICE OF HEARING

No less than 10 days prior to the hearing, the Office of Student Conduct will send written notice of the hearing to the Parties. The Parties will be notified by their University email accounts or by other reasonable means. Once mailed, emailed, and/or received in-person, notice will be presumptively delivered.

2. HEARING

The University will not issue a Disciplinary Sanction arising from an allegation of a violation of this Policy without holding a hearing, unless otherwise resolved through an informal resolution process or an alternate process permitted under this Policy. If the University determines a hearing is necessary, the Parties cannot waive the right to a hearing.

The University may still proceed with the hearing in the absence of a Party, and may reach a determination of responsibility in their absence. The University will not threaten, coerce, intimidate, or discriminate against the Party in an attempt to secure the Party's participation.

If a Party does not participate in a hearing or submit to cross-examination in the hearing, the Decision Maker(s) may not rely on any "statement" by that Party. This aspect of the hearing is discussed below in the section entitled Cross-Examination.

The Decision Maker(s) cannot draw an inference about the determination regarding responsibility based solely on a Party's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer cross-examination or other questions.

The hearing may be conducted with all Parties physically present in the same geographic location, or, at the University's discretion, any or all Parties, Witnesses, and other participants may appear at the hearing virtually through video conferencing technology. This technology will enable participants simultaneously to see and hear each other. At its discretion, the University may delay or adjourn a hearing based on technological errors.

All proceedings will be recorded through audio and/or video recording. That recording or transcript will be made available to the Parties for inspection and review upon request.

3. CONTINUANCES OR GRANTING EXTENSIONS

The University may determine multiple sessions or a continuance (i.e., a pause on the continuation of the hearing until a later date or time) is needed to complete a hearing. If so, the University will notify all participants and endeavor to accommodate all participants' schedules and complete the hearing as promptly as practicable.

4. PARTICIPANTS IN THE HEARING

Hearings are not public, and the only individuals permitted to participate in the

hearing are as follows:

- a) The Hearing Officer(s)
- b) The Hearing Chair
- c) Hearing facilitators,
- d) University personnel

- e) The Parties
- f) Advisor of choice or provided by the University for each Party
- g) Witnesses
- h) Any individuals necessary to provide interpretation or other support services associated with reasonable accommodations to facilitate participation in the hearing.

The Hearing Officer(s) will not have a conflict of interest or bias in favor of or against Complainants or Respondents generally, or in favor or against the Parties to the case. The Parties will have an opportunity to raise any objections regarding a Decision Maker's actual or perceived conflicts of interest or bias at the beginning of the hearing.

Parties and Witnesses cannot be compelled to participate in the hearing and have the right not to participate in the hearing free from retaliation.

BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

All persons sitting as the decision-makers, either as the Hearing chair or as hearing officers on the board are required to undergo no less than 20 hours of annual training (both federal and Pennsylvania-specific training) through the [Student Conduct Institute](#) based at the State University of New York. Unless and until the training is complete a hearing officer cannot sit on a University Sexual Misconduct Board. Other individuals involved in the process including investigators, and appeals officers are also required to undergo training through SCI. Again, unless and until the training is complete those individuals cannot participate in the hearing process.

DECISIONS

A. General Considerations for Evaluating Testimony and Evidence

- 1) While the opportunity for cross-examination is required in all hearings under this Policy, determinations regarding responsibility may be based in part, or entirely, on documentary, audiovisual, and digital evidence, as warranted in the reasoned judgment of the Hearing Officer(s).
- 2) Hearsay evidence may not be used to establish a fact necessary to establish responsibility consistent with the requirements under Chapter 505 of Title 22 of the Pennsylvania Code concerning Student Personnel.
- 3) Hearing Officer(s) shall not draw inferences regarding a Party or Witness' credibility based on the Party or Witness' status as a Complainant, Respondent, or Witness, nor shall it base its judgments in stereotypes about how a Party or Witness would or should act under the circumstances.
- 4) Generally, credibility judgments should rest on the demeanor of the Party or Witness, the plausibility of their testimony, the consistency of their testimony, and its reliability in light of corroborating or conflicting testimony or evidence.
- 5) Credibility judgments should not rest on whether a Party or Witness' testimony is non-linear or incomplete, or if the Party or Witness is displaying stress or anxiety.
- 6) Where a Party or Witness' conduct or statements demonstrate

that the Party or Witness is engaging in retaliatory conduct, including but not limited to witness tampering and intimidation, the Hearing Officer(s) may draw an adverse inference as to that Party or Witness' credibility.

- 7) Hearing Officer(s) will afford the highest weight relative to other testimony to first-hand testimony by Parties and Witnesses regarding their own memory of specific facts that occurred. Both inculpatory and exculpatory (i.e., tending to prove and disprove the allegations) evidence will be weighed in an equal fashion.
- 8) The Final Rule requires the University to admit and allow testimony regarding polygraph tests ("lie detector tests") and other procedures that are outside of standard use in academic and non-academic conduct processes. While the processes and testimony about them will be allowed to testify and be crossed as required by the Final Rule, the Hearing Officer(s) will be instructed to afford lower weight to such processes relative to the testimony of fact witnesses.
- 9) The Final Rule requires the University to allow parties to call character witnesses to testify. The University does not provide for character witnesses in other proceedings. While the character witnesses will be allowed to testify and be crossed as required by the Final Rule, the Hearing Officer(s) will be instructed to afford very low weight to any non-factual character testimony of any Witness.

B. Timeline for Decision

If there are no extenuating circumstances, the determination regarding responsibility will be issued by the University to the complainant and respondent within 10 days of the completion of the hearing. The complainant and respondent have the right to appeal the decision.

C. Finality

The determination regarding responsibility becomes final either upon the outcome of any appeal or the expiration of the window to appeal without an appeal being requested as outlined in the Appeals section below.

SANCTIONS

If the Decision-Maker determines, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the student, employee, or official violated the Sexual Misconduct Policy, the written determination of responsibility containing a details explanation of that which was discussed in the Decisions Section, above, will also contain the sanction imposed on the respondent.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS AGAINST STUDENTS

POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The University may impose the following Disciplinary Sanctions upon Students, singly or in combination, and are listed with the description of violations. Sanctions may include the following: disciplinary reprimand, disciplinary probation, final disciplinary probation, disciplinary suspension, and expulsion. These sanctions may be in conjunction with and run concurrently with residential sanctions including residential probation, residential suspension,

and residential loss of housing. A no-contact order may be imposed along with these sanctions.

PREVIOUS DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Previous Disciplinary Sanctions of any kind involving the Respondent may be considered in determining an appropriate sanction upon a determination of responsibility. This information is only considered at the sanction stage of the process.

TIMING

The Disciplinary Sanctions will be implemented as soon as feasible, either upon the outcome of any appeal or the expiration of the window to appeal without an appeal being requested.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS AGAINST EMPLOYEES, OFFICIALS, AND VOLUNTEERS

POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Disciplinary Sanctions imposed on an Employee for violating this Policy, subject to an applicable collective bargaining agreement or University/System policies, may include a penalty up to and including separation from employment. Disciplinary Sanctions imposed on an Official or Volunteer may include a penalty up to removal or the request for the removal of the Official or Volunteer from their respective position.

TIMING

The Disciplinary Sanctions will be implemented as soon as feasible, either upon the outcome of any appeal or the expiration of the window to appeal without an appeal being requested.

APPEALS

APPEALS WHERE THE RESPONDENT IS A STUDENT

A. Each Party may appeal the dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any included allegations or a determination of responsibility on the following grounds:

- 1) A procedural irregularity under the University policy or procedures that affected the hearing outcome.
- 2) New evidence that was not reasonably available through the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time of the hearing or dismissal of the Formal Complaint that could affect the outcome of the matter.
- 3) The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Decision Maker(s)/Hearing Officer(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against an individual party, or for or against complainants or respondents in general, that affected the outcome of the matter.
- 4) The Disciplinary Sanction imposed was grossly disproportionate to the violation.

B. Appeals must be made in writing by the published appeal date noted on the letter and submitted via the Conduct Outcome Appeal link contained within the letter or by clicking the link on

the Student Conduct website.

- C. The submission of an appeal stays any Disciplinary Sanctions for the pendency of an appeal. Supportive Measures and remote learning opportunities remain available during the pendency of the appeal.
- D. If a party appeals, the University will notify the other party in writing of the appeal as soon as practicable, however, the time for an appeal shall be offered equitably to all parties and shall not be extended for any party solely because the other party filed an appeal. If the basis of the appeal is the Disciplinary Sanction imposed was grossly disproportionate to the violation, the other Party will be given 5 days to respond to the Disciplinary Sanctions basis of appeal after being notified of the appeal.
- E. Appeals will be decided by the University Appeals Board, who will be free of conflict of interest and bias, and will not serve as an Investigator, Title IX Coordinator, Advisor, or Decision Maker/Hearing Officer in the same matter.
- F. The appealing party must meet its burden to demonstrate the outcome was affected by a preponderance of the evidence. The role of the University Appeals Board is not to reweigh the evidence. The University Appeals Board will confine their review to the basis of the appeal alleged and may modify the sanction on the basis that the severity of the sanction is disproportionate to the violation(s). In the event a Disciplinary Sanction is modified, the other party will be notified of the modified Disciplinary Sanction.
- G. The outcome of the appeal, including any change to the result of the case, will be provided in writing simultaneously to both parties and include the rationale for the decision

APPEALS WHERE THE RESPONDENT IS AN EMPLOYEE

A. Each Party may appeal the dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any included allegations or a determination of responsibility on the following grounds:

- 1) A procedural irregularity under the University policy or procedures that affected the hearing outcome.
- 2) New evidence that was not reasonably available through the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time of the hearing or dismissal of the Formal Complaint that could affect the outcome of the matter.
- 3) The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Decision Maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against an individual party, or for or against complainants or respondents in general, that affected the outcome of the matter.

B. Appeals must be filed in writing within 5 days of being notified of the decision and must indicate the grounds for the appeal.

C. The submission of an appeal stays any Disciplinary Sanctions for the pendency of an appeal. Supportive Measures remain available during the pendency of the appeal.

D. If a Party appeals, the University will notify the other Party in writing of the appeal as soon as practicable, however, the time for an appeal shall be offered equitably to all Parties and shall not be extended for any Party solely because the other Party filed an appeal.

E. Appeals will be decided by an Appeals Board who will be free of con-

flict of interest and bias, and will not serve as an Investigator, Title IX Coordinator, Advisor, or Decision Maker in the same matter.

- F. The appealing party must meet its burden to demonstrate the outcome was affected by a preponderance of the evidence. The role of an Appeals Board is not to reweigh the evidence. The Appeals Board will confine their review to the basis of the appeal alleged.
- G. The outcome of the appeal, including any change to the result of the case, will be provided in writing simultaneously to both parties and include the rationale for the decision.

PROCEDURES FOR NON-TITLE IX, I.E. NON-REGULATORY VIOLATIONS.

West Chester University (WCU) is committed to equality of opportunity and freedom from unlawful discrimination for all its students and employees. Sexual harassment/misconduct is a form of unlawful discrimination based on sex and will not be tolerated in any form by faculty, staff, students, contractors, or vendors. The definitions and procedures outlined in this policy will be followed when a non-student brings allegations of sexual harassment or misconduct against a non-student respondent. When a student is the complainant or respondent, the procedures in the Sexual Misconduct Policy will be followed.

DEFINITIONS

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other harassing conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment occurs when:

1. Submission to the unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or status in a course, program, or activity;
2. Submission to or rejection of the unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature by an individual is used as the basis for an academic or employment-related decision affecting such an individual;
3. The unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive as to substantially limit or interfere with an individual's work, educational performance, participation in extra-curricular activities, or equal access to the University's resources and opportunities; or
4. Such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or abusive living, working, or educational environment.

Sexual violence or misconduct is a form of sexual harassment. Sexual misconduct includes Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Dating Violence, Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Domestic Violence, Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Sexual Assault, Regulatory and Non-Regulatory Stalking, and Sexual Exploitation. For complete and current definitions on these terms, please see the full Sexual Misconduct Policy.

POLICY STATEMENT

It is a violation of policy for any member of the University community to engage in sexual harassment/misconduct, or to take retaliatory action against an individual for reporting sexual harassment/misconduct. Consequences of sexual harassment/misconduct may include termination of the relationship with the University. Retaliatory actions against persons filing a complaint of sexual harassment/misconduct, opposing sexual harassment/misconduct, or participating in the investigation of a complaint, are also prohibited. Acts of retaliation shall constitute misconduct subject to disciplinary action and should be reported to the Director of Equal Opportunity and Compliance.

All members of the University community are responsible for ensuring that their conduct does not sexually harass any other member of the University community.

This policy is not intended to interfere with the protections afforded by law to freedom of speech. Additional information, including additional examples of what constitutes sexual harassment/misconduct, is available from the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance (EQOC).

POLICY FRAMEWORK

Training Requirements All employees in a supervisory role should attend (in person or virtual) harassment/misconduct prevention training with the Office of EQOC every two years. **Reporting requirements** Any individual having information about a member of the University community engaging in a specific act or a pattern of behavior which falls within the above definition of sexual harassment/misconduct must report the matter to the Director of EQOC.

University employees, except those identified in the Sexual Misconduct Policy as employees who serve in a role that makes such reports privileged or are recognized as providing a confidential resource, are required to provide the name of the recipient of any sexually harassing behavior to the Director of EQOC.

Supervisors of faculty and staff have the further responsibility of preventing and eliminating sexual harassment/misconduct within the areas of their authority. If supervisors have information about alleged acts of sexual harassment/misconduct by someone whom they supervise, they must take immediate steps to ensure the matter is addressed and brought to the attention of the Director of EQOC. Failure by supervisors to report the alleged acts of sexual harassment/misconduct may result in disciplinary proceedings. If a manager addresses an issue with an employee which may reference sexually harassing behavior or misconduct, the Director of EQOC should be notified.

Faculty members and staff employees are required to inform the Director of EQOC whenever they become aware of behavior they believe to be sexual harassment/misconduct.

INVESTIGATION RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Overall responsibility for the implementation of the sexual harassment and sexual misconduct policy has been assigned to the Office of EQOC. Any individual having suggestions, problems, complaints, or grievances with regard to sexual misconduct is encour-

aged to contact the office at 114 West Rosedale Avenue or by phone at 610-436-2433. If a member of the West Chester University Community feels that they have been the subject of sexual misconduct or harassment, the matter should be brought to the attention of the Office of EQOC. If a complaint alleges sexual harassment/misconduct by an employee of the Office of EQOC or the Office of the President, the complaint will be investigated by a party external to the University. All procedures may be performed virtually.

To process an allegation of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct not falling under the Title IX regulations, the individual, accompanied by an advocate if they wish, must process the complaint through the Office of EQOC. Knowingly false or malicious accusations may result in disciplinary action.

In order to conduct a formal investigation which may result in discipline of a University employee, there must be first-hand information by the complainant or a witness who is available and willing to be identified and interviewed by the investigator(s). In determining whether a third-party complaint should be formally investigated, the following factors need to be evaluated: (1) is the reporter of the complaint submitting reliable facts or sufficient information; (2) does the report contain the name and contact information for the alleged complainant; (3) is there sufficient detail in the report to determine whether the allegations fall within the realm of sexual harassment/misconduct; and (4) has the report been brought forward in a timely manner.

Complaints should be filed up to 180 days after the alleged act or behavior. However, it is in the best interest of all to conduct a timely review of the circumstances of the alleged harassing behavior; accordingly, Complainants are urged to contact the Office of EQOC as soon as possible.

The Complainant also has the option of pursuing formal complaints through the following public agencies responsible for enforcing the laws against sexual harassment within the time frames listed:

- PA Human Relations Commission (215) 560-2496 180 days
- U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights (215) 656-8541 180 days
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (215) 440-2600 300 days

When consideration is being given to accepting a complaint beyond 180 days, management will provide the appropriate collective bargaining unit representative either oral or written notification, giving the collective bargaining unit representative the opportunity to respond within a reasonable time period.

The University has a legal obligation to investigate informal or anonymous reports of sexual harassment/misconduct to the extent feasible and make Complainants and Respondents aware of the resources available to them, while striving to respect privacy and confidentiality. The University's obligation to protect the safety of its students and to record statistics may not permit complete confidentiality, but the University shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the information shared is limited to those individuals required to know.

It is not usually possible to conduct a formal investigation of anonymous reports of sexual harassment/misconduct, or in situations where a Complainant requests confidentiality or asks that the complaint not be pursued. However, the University has a responsi-

bility to take action to prevent harassment/misconduct. In the event of anonymous reports of sexual harassment/misconduct, or if the Complainant asks that a complaint not be pursued, reasonable steps will be taken to respond consistent with the request for confidentiality, which may include meeting with the alleged Respondent to provide notification of the allegations and the possible repercussions if a formal complaint is brought forward. The Director of EQOC may recommend voluntary sexual harassment/misconduct training for an individual or a work unit.

THE COMPLAINT PROCESS FOR NON-TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR MISCONDUCT

The process below only applies for complaints filed against non-students for sexual harassment or misconduct not regulated by Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972. This would include, but is not limited to, allegations in violation of Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If a student is the Respondent, the procedures outlined in the Sexual Misconduct Policy will be followed.

Employees, whether Complainants (the person or persons injured by the action) or Respondents (the person or persons who allegedly performed the action), have the right to be assisted in all aspects of the complaint procedure by their union representative.

The Complainant also has the right to be assisted in all aspects of the complaint procedure by an advocate should they desire to do so. If an employee elects to be represented by their union, the union representative will receive copies of all written notifications during the complaint process. Employees equally have the right not to be represented by their union. This decision rests solely with the employee. The employee should provide the office with their union representatives' name, if applicable, to the Office of EQOC within 10 business days of receiving notification of an allegation. The role of the representative is limited to the advice and counsel of their principals only. Representatives cannot question, answer, or provide advice during an interview or hearing. However, parties can request a brief recess to consult their representative.

INITIATING THE PROCESS

The process begins when the Director of EQOC receives a report of a violation of WCU policy relating to sexual harassment or misconduct not covered by Title IX regulations. The Complainant should provide sufficient factual information to permit the Director to make an initial assessment of violation. The Director will determine if any supportive measures should be applied. Following the initial assessment, the Director may take any of the following actions:

- If the Director determines that the report, even if substantiated, would not rise to the level of a policy violation; the nature and circumstances of the report do not make it appropriate for an investigation; or, after consultation with the Complainant about the Complainant's preferences regarding participation, the Director determines that there will be insufficient information to investigate the matter, the Director may dismiss the complaint. The Complainant will be advised of the dismissal and of any other recourse that might be appropriate.
- If the Director determines that the report is outside the scope of the sexual harassment or sexual misconduct policies and/or most

appropriately handled by another office, the Director may refer the report to another office for review.

- If the Director determines that the report would, if substantiated, constitute a violation of policy, the Director will advise the Complainant of the types of processes available.
- If the Complainant chooses not to move forward, or if the Complainant is anonymous, the Director may notify the Respondent of the information reported and the possible repercussions if a formal complaint is brought forward. The Director may schedule a meeting with the Respondent (and their representative, if desired by the Respondent) to pass on this information, answer questions, and provide assistance. The Director may recommend voluntary training for an individual or a work unit. The reported information will be maintained by the Office of EQOC for a period of 7 years. However, no written record will be forwarded to a student's education file or to an employee's official personnel file.

THE COMPLAINT

To move forward with an informal or formal process, the allegations of the report must be reduced to writing in a written complaint. The Complainant may provide this themselves or the Director of EQOC may assist the Complainant in writing the complaint. The Director may also bring a complaint themselves if circumstances warrant an investigation independent of participation by the Complainant.

The Office of EQOC reserves the ability to consider whether a violation can be reviewed if it is reported outside the 180-day period for filing a complaint. Factors that affect that consideration include the following:

- Amount of time beyond 180 days,
- Whether the alleged behaviors may represent a violation of the University's Sexual Harassment Policy,
- The severity of the allegations,
- The University risk for failing to address the allegations, and
- Whether the allegations represent a possible pattern of behavior for the respondent.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE FOR RESPONDENT

1. The Director of EQOC will send notification to the Provost's office (for faculty) or Division Head (for other staff).
2. The Provost or Division Head will send a notification letter to the Respondent that summarizes the complaint.
3. When a formal investigation is to be conducted against a faculty member, Article 42 of the APSCUF collective bargaining agreement will also govern.

If the Complainant is a student enrolled at the time in the class of the Respondent, they may request that notification be delayed until after the completion of the semester or until final grades in the class have been assigned. The Director of EQOC will make this determination.

Investigations may take place at any time in the resolution process after notification to the Respondent at the discretion of the Director of EQOC. The fact-finding procedure is not intended to interfere

with any legal rights an employee or student has under the statutes and other laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the government of the United States of America, or an employee's collective bargaining agreement.

CHOICE OF PROCESS BY COMPLAINANT

There are two types of complaint-resolution mechanisms: a formal process that involves investigation and possible conduct proceedings, and an informal process that may or may not involve investigation and less formal procedures. The Complainant initiates the formal or informal process after filing the written complaint with the Office of EQOC.

INFORMAL PROCESS

The informal process includes efforts to mediate a resolution upon which both the Complainant and Respondent can agree. The informal process is not available to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

Upon receipt of the complaint, notification to the Respondent of the allegations, the Complainant's desire for mediation, and the Respondents' concurrence to the informal process, the Director of EQOC may facilitate a resolution or appoint a mediator(s) and notify the parties of the mediator(s) identity. Mediation occurs by mutual consent, therefore, at any stage of the mediation process either party can withdraw from the informal process.

1. The mediation may be conducted by separate discussions with the parties or in meetings with both parties present, depending on the circumstances and the mediator's best judgment.
2. If either party chooses to withdraw from the mediation process, the Director will move forward with the formal complaint process.
3. At the conclusion of the mediation, the mediator(s) will provide a written statement of the resolution agreed to by both parties to the Director. The informal resolution process may recommend the following types of outcomes, where appropriate: facilitating an agreement between the parties, separating the parties, referring the parties to counseling programs, conducting targeted educational and training programs, and mediation.
4. If the parties involved in the informal resolution process fail to reach a mutually agreeable outcome for the alleged conduct, the allegation will be resolved via the formal investigation process.
5. The Director will send a written summary of the outcome to the parties.
6. If the Director determines that there is a need, the formal process may be initiated on behalf of the University at any time.
7. All written summaries of the informal complaint process will be maintained by the Office of EQOC for a period of 7 years. No written record will be forwarded to the employee's official personnel file and a successful informal resolution will not result in disciplinary proceedings.
8. Completed informal resolutions are binding and may not be appealed.

FORMAL PROCESS

A Complainant may initiate formal procedures. Formal procedures, which may result in a disciplinary proceeding, include a fact-finding and review process.

After accepting a written formal complaint, the Director for EQOC will appoint an investigator. When appropriate, as determined by the Director, two investigators may be assigned to a case. The parties will be notified of the investigator's identity. Investigators are specifically trained and impartial faculty or staff. The investigator's role is to investigate complaints and make findings of fact pertaining to the complaint.

1. The investigation generally includes interviews with the parties, any relevant witnesses, and a review of relevant documents (text messages, emails, etc.). Participants in an investigation are advised that maintaining confidentiality is essential to protect the integrity of an investigation. At any time during the investigation, the investigator may recommend to the Director that interim measures be provided to the Complainant, Respondent or witnesses. Violations of these interim measures may be considered a separate violation of policy.
2. During an investigative interview, the interviewee is expected to answer the question, not his or her representation.
3. Parties and union representatives are not allowed to record interviews.
4. The investigator(s) will take notes during the interview and provide each participant with a summary of the interview for the purpose of review. Any substantive changes to the content after the review by the participant may be noted in the final report.
5. The investigation shall be completed as promptly as possible, and in most cases within fifty (50) business days of the date of the formal complaint. A total of two attempts (by email, text, or phone) will be made to schedule investigative interviews. This includes attempts to schedule with the presence of a union representative or legal representative. Failure to respond to scheduling requests will result in proceeding with the investigation without input from that individual.
6. At the conclusion of the investigation, the investigator will prepare a written report that includes a statement of the allegations and issues, identification of facts, reviewed evidence, a determination of whether the alleged actions may have violated University policy using the preponderance of evidence standard, and any recommendations.
7. The investigator will submit the report to the Director of EQOC. The Director will formulate an opinion as to whether there has been a violation of University policy.

If it is the opinion of the Director that there is not enough evidence to warrant a finding of Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct, the Complainant and the Respondent will be notified of this decision, and the case will be closed. The Office of EQOC, however, maintains the right to refer the case to other appropriate University officials if it appears that there may be violations of other University policies.

If it is the opinion of the Director of EQOC that there is reasonable cause to believe that the University's Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct Policy has been violated, the Director will forward the

investigative report and the Director's opinion to the appropriate manager who will follow their disciplinary procedures. For confidentiality purposes, the Respondent is not entitled to a copy of the investigative report but will be advised of the findings.

The manager will utilize the existing University pre-disciplinary conference (PDC) procedures ensuring that the Respondent employee has the opportunity to be represented, if so desired, by their union representative during the PDC. At the PDC, the Respondent will have an opportunity to rebut the findings of the investigator's report and the Director's opinion. After completing the pre-disciplinary conference, the manager (in consultation with the Associate Vice President for Human Resource Services and other University officials, as needed) will determine if discipline is appropriate and what level of discipline should be imposed. Possible disciplinary actions for violation of the University's Sexual Harassment or Sexual Misconduct Policy include oral or written reprimand, suspension, or termination of employment.

The manager is not bound by the opinion of the Director of EQOC and retains the right to make a final determination. Disciplined employees will have the right to appeal or grieve management's decision to the extent provided in the appropriate policy or collective bargaining agreement.

The Complainant will receive notification of the final disposition of the complaint. If the Complainant finds the resolution or disciplinary action unsatisfactory, they may pursue the complaint with the appropriate external agencies.

UNIVERSITY-INITIATED PROTECTIVE MEASURES

In addition to those protective measures previously described the Title IX Coordinator or their designee will determine whether interim interventions and protective measures should be implemented, and, if so, take steps to implement those protective measures as soon as possible. Examples of interim protective measures include but are not limited to: a university order of no contact, residence hall relocation, adjustment of course schedules, a leave of absence, or re-assignment to a different supervisor or position. These remedies may be applied to one, both, or multiple parties involved. Violations of the Title IX Coordinator's directives and/or protective measures may constitute related violations that may lead to additional disciplinary action. Protective measures imposed may be temporarily pending the results of an investigation or may become permanent as determined by West Chester University.

The complainant will receive notification that the complaint has been reviewed and addressed by a University official. In addition to the internal complaint process, a complainant may pursue the complaint with the appropriate external agencies.

This policy and the procedures addressed herein are in addition to, and not a replacement for, criminal remedies that may be available. Anyone interested in pursuing a criminal complaint should contact the Office of Public Safety at 610- 436-3311 or dial 911 in case of an emergency.

If the incident occurs off-campus, the WCU Police Department will assist the complainant in filing the complaint in the appropriate jurisdiction.



HEOA Disclosure Statement

Under the Sexual Misconduct Policy, the University will disclose the outcome of a disciplinary proceeding alleging sexual misconduct to both the complainant and the respondent individuals. Additionally, the University may disclose the results of a disciplinary proceeding brought against the alleged perpetrator to the alleged complainant of any crime of violence, as that term is defined in 18 U.S.C. 16. If the victim is deceased, as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the victim for purposes of this paragraph.

2025 ANNUAL

FIRE SAFETY REPORT

ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT

West Chester University publishes this annual report to comply with the reporting requirements contained in Section 485 of the Higher Education Act, *Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know*. This report will provide information such as statistics on fire related incidents and/or injuries that have occurred in residence halls, descriptions of each residence hall's fire safety system, number of fire evacuation drills performed, university fire safety policy and procedures and plans for future residence hall fire safety improvements.

DEFINITIONS

The following terms are used within this report. Definitions have been obtained from the Higher Education Opportunity Act:

On-Campus Student Housing: A student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution and is within a reasonable contiguous area that makes up the campus.

Fire: Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Fire Drill: A supervised and scheduled orderly evacuation of faculty, students and staff from a facility for the purpose of ensuring the safety of occupants during an actual emergency. Fire Drills are conducted at various times throughout the year to provide occupants familiarization with a facility's fire safety features and avenues of egress.

Fire Log: A bound log intended to chronologically record any occurrence of fire within an on-campus student housing facility. The log shall record the time and date that a fire occurred, as well as the general location and nature of the fire. The most recent seven (7) days of recordings must be readily available for review. The most recent sixty (60) days of recordings must be available for review within two (2) business days of the request.

Fire-related death: Any death occurring as a direct result of a fire occurring in an on-campus student housing facility, including any individual who dies within one (1) year of such incident.

Fire-related injury: Any injury sustained as a direct result of a fire occurring in an on-campus housing facility, which, as a result, requires medical treatment at a medical facility.

Fire Safety system: Any devices, systems or combinations of systems designed and intended to detect fire, and activate alarms, and suppress, or control fires. Such systems may include smoke detectors, heat detectors, sprinklers, or other similar systems.

Sprinklered Building: A building in which all parts including dwelling units, common areas, refuse chutes and utility rooms are protected by an automatic wet sprinkler system.

Partially Sprinklered Building: Buildings in which only select areas are protected by an automatic wet sprinkler system.

Smoke Detector: A device intended to sound an audible alarm upon sensing products of combustion. A smoke detector may also activate a visible signal and may sound locally or transmit a signal to a central station.

Property Loss: Any damage to the structure and contents of an on-campus housing facility as a direct result of an occurrence of a fire therein. Included in any assessment shall be any damage resulting from fire suppression efforts.

DESCRIPTION OF ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS—RESIDENCE HALLS/APARTMENTS

West Chester University facilities comply with the local fire safety requirements and with West Chester University's Safety programs. All the equipment is inspected and maintained regularly by WCU Environmental Health and Safety and our Fire Protection Vendors in accordance with applicable requirements.

The Residence Halls have a variety of fire safety systems:

- Central fire alarm systems complete with smoke detectors throughout the building and within each resident's room.
- Automatic wet sprinklers in all public corridors and all resident's rooms.
- Portable fire extinguishers throughout the building.
- Illuminated signage identifying exit routes, specific exit routes for each room, and push-bar device for all exit doors.
- All exit doors are installed with the push-bar devices.
- Monthly inspection of fire protection facilities and suppression equipment.
- Fire drills conducted throughout the year.

All Fire Alarm Panels on Main Campus report to the **Department of Public Safety Communications Center**. The DPS Communications Center is staffed with A.P.C.O. certified emergency dispatch personnel. A.P.C.O., short for the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, is the national standard for emergency dispatch operations and training. Our Communications personnel are responsible for coordinating supplementary external emergency response such as fire and emergency medical services. The Communications Center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year regardless of semester breaks and holidays. The center communicates with the Chester County 911 center and municipal agencies bordering our main campus. Calls received by the Chester County 911 center are forwarded to our DPS Communication Center for response.

Please see the table below for a list of all student residence halls and their fire safety systems, including fire detection and suppression systems, and fire drills conducted.

On Campus Student Housing Facility Fire Safety Systems

Residence Name and street address	FIRE ALARM MONITORING ON SITE (Public Safety)	SMOKE DETECTORS & PULL STATIONS	HORNS & STROBE LIGHTS	FULL SPRINKLER SYSTEM	PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	EVACUATION PLANS & PLACARDS
Goshen Hall 125 North Campus Drive	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Killinger Hall 115 West Rosedale Avenue	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Schmidt Hall 225 West Rosedale Avenue	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tyson Hall 225 North Campus Drive	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
College Arms Apartments 721, 731, & 733 S. High St.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
South Campus Apartments 831-852 S. Campus Drive	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Avenue	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brandywine Hall 709 South New Street	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commonwealth Hall 715 South New St	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
University Hall 180 University Avenue	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Hall	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Village Apartments 182-193 Carey Drive	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
East Village Apartments 250-258 East Carey Drive	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

FIRE SAFETY POLICIES

West Chester University takes Fire Safety seriously and continues to enhance its programs to campus community through education, engineering, and enforcement. Educational programs are presented throughout the year to faculty, staff, and students so they are aware of the rules and safe practices. These programs are available on the [WCU Fire Safety page](#). They include identification and prevention of fire hazards, building evacuation procedures, specific occupant response to fire emergencies and fire extinguisher training. All residence halls have emergency evacuation plans and conduct fire drills twice a semester to allow occupants to become familiar with and practice their evacuation skills. The [Emergency Response Guideline](#) is also available to review all emergency procedures.

Automatic sprinkler systems and fire alarm systems are recognized engineered building features that help to provide for a fire safe living environment. All West Chester University residence halls and apartments are provided with automatic sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, and building fire alarm systems to provide early detection and warning of a possible fire emergency.

West Chester University maintains and tests all fire alarms and automatic fire suppression systems in accordance with the appropriate National Fire Protection Association Standard to insure system readiness and proper operation in the event of a fire emergency.

PORTABLE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

All electrical equipment and/or appliances must bear the seal of approval of the "Underwriter's Laboratories, Inc." (UL) to be approved for use in campus facilities.

Surge protection strips must be plugged individually into an outlet and shall not be plugged into each other. Surge protectors have been supplied by Environmental Health and Safety in each student resident room and these are the only surge protectors approved for use in the residence halls.

Due to the potential for accidents that may occur when using certain electrical appliances, the following devices are restricted or prohibited in all University residences:

- Space heaters (except during extreme conditions approved by the University)
- Fog machines
- Halogen lamps
- Hot plates, hot pots, and similar devices
- Microwaves **over 1000 watts**
 - Microwaves under 1000 watts are permitted and must be plugged into the provided Microwave Smoke Sensor.

These devices are examples of heat-producing appliances that are prohibited. Residents are encouraged to contact their residence director if they have questions regarding approved appliances.

SMOKING

Smoking and electronic cigarettes are prohibited in all areas of all University buildings. Smoking devices, including, but not limited to, pipes, bongs, and hookahs, are not permitted anywhere in

residential buildings. Occupants and their guests are required to always observe the policy. Smoking is only permitted in designated exterior areas.

OPEN FLAME

Candles and open flames of any kind are strictly prohibited in the residential facilities, as are incense burners and like heat producing devices or sources. These items will be confiscated and may not be returned. Violations may result in disciplinary action as indicated in the Policies and Regulations regarding Student Behavior.

PROCEDURES FOR EVACUATION

Procedures Students and Employees Should Follow in Case of a Fire

In the event of a fire or other situation requiring the evacuation of occupants and the notification of emergency services personnel (police/fire/ EMS), please follow these directions;

1. If a fire exists and the evacuation alarm has not already sounded automatically, it can be manually activated by using the nearest pull station. Pull stations are located near exits in all campus-housing facilities.
2. Once the evacuation alarm sounds, all occupants are required to evacuate.
3. Occupants are to move swiftly to the nearest emergency exit. Close doors behind you while exiting. DO NOT use the elevator during a fire evacuation as it may malfunction and trap you.
4. Once outside, go to the designated meeting location and remain there until given instructions to move to another location or told that it is safe to return to the building by Public Safety.
5. Assist others who may not be able to evacuate themselves if safe to do so. Get them to an Area of Rescue Assistance on their floor, then contact Public Safety at (610) 436-3311, and report their location for further assistance.
6. Call 911 and report the emergency once you are in a safe place.
7. DO NOT re-enter the building for any reason until Public Safety gives clearance to do so once everything is declared safe.

EVACUATION PROCEDURES FOR STUDENT HOUSING IN CASE OF A FIRE

In the event of a fire, the University expects that all campus community members will evacuate by the nearest exit, closing doors and activating the fire alarm system as they leave. Once safely outside a building, it is appropriate to contact 911 and the Department of Public Safety at 610-436- 3311. Students and/or staff are informed where to relocate to by staff if circumstance warrants at the time of the alarm. In the event fire alarms sound, University policy is that all occupants must evacuate from the building, closing doors as they leave. Training is not provided to students or employees in firefighting or suppression activity as this is inherently dangerous and each community member's only duty is to exit safely and quickly, shutting doors along the exit path as they go to contain the spread of flames and smoke, and to activate the alarm as they exit. At no time should the closing of doors or the activation of the alarm delay the exit from the building.

Become familiar with the evacuation exits nearest to your room and review the evacuation plans posted on each floor of the building. You should use the nearest stairwell to your room, but you should also be aware of a secondary exit if your primary exit becomes unusable.

Do not use the center stairwells unless no other safe alternative exists. These stairwells must be kept clear for use by emergency responders.

- Do not use the elevators to evacuate during an emergency. If you are unable to evacuate by yourself, go to the nearest Area of Rescue Assistance and if possible, contact Public Safety and tell them where you are located.
- Exit the building swiftly but calmly, do not run, but walk briskly to the nearest exit.
- After exiting the building, report to the pre-designated meeting location for your building. Do not leave this area or attempt to re-enter the building unless advised that it is safe to do so by Public Safety.

FIRE REPORTING

For the purposes of fire safety reporting, a “fire” is defined as: “any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.”

There are no restrictions concerning who reports fires in West Chester University facilities. Residents, faculty, staff members and visitors are encouraged to report in-progress fires as quickly as safely practical to facilitate fire emergency procedures and to improve the gathering of reportable statistics. Individuals are encouraged to call 911 or the Department of Public Safety at 610-436-3311 to immediately report a fire. Residents in a living facility on the University campus can immediately report a fire to any Residential Life staff member, as well.

Residents, faculty, staff members and visitors are encouraged to report after-the-fact fires to improve the gathering of reportable statistics, as well. After-the-fact fires are obvious areas of burning from a fire that was extinguished and is no longer active. Public Safety will send officers to the scene of any reportable fire and the officers will initiate emergency action, if required, and complete necessary reporting to ensure statistical data is available for the annual fire safety report.

FIRE LOG

Environmental Health and Safety maintains the Fire Log of all fire incidents reported to the University. The log is available to members of the public during normal business hours at 823 South High Street, West Chester, PA 19382. You may request an electronic copy by contacting WCU-Environmental Health and Safety EHS@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3333.

FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF

Fire safety education and training programs are taught by experienced fire services personnel with training and certifications in the Fire Protection and Fire Safety Inspection fields. Fire Safety Training and educational programming is provided to the following groups

- All Residence Life Staff –Annually
- Sykes Student Union Staff -Annually
- Student Recreation Staff- Annually
- Student Health and Wellness Employees- Annually
- Faculty and Staff-Annually

This training covers the following topics:

- Roles and Responsibilities
- Basics of Fire Safety
- Common causes of Fires
- Life Safety Systems on Campus
- WCU Emergency Action Plans

During these programs, trainers emphasize that participating in fire drills is mandatory and review the evacuation procedures. Upon Request, Environmental Health and Safety staff is available to conduct additional fire safety training.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

It is extremely important that residents familiarize themselves and their guests with all applicable fire safety procedures in their assigned building. Students are educated on the Fire Safety Plan for their residence halls within the first ten days of each semester. This training is done by Residence Life Staff. Residents who fail to comply fully with applicable fire safety procedures or who otherwise violate rules and regulations related to fire safety are subject to disciplinary action. Students who fail to abide by building emergency evacuation procedures are subject to disciplinary action. In general, residents are expected to maintain reasonable standards of cleanliness to avoid fire hazards and must not obstruct sidewalks, entrances, passages, fire escapes, elevators, lobbies, stairways, corridors, or halls with personal property. The following items are prohibited in the residence halls and will be confiscated:

- Flammable decorations
- Natural or artificial evergreens
- Electric heaters, grills, hot plate burners
- Halogen lighting equipment
- Candles, incense, outdoor grills, or any other type of open flame or open coil device
- Explosives, fireworks, firearms, or ammunition

Students found in possession of prohibited items or who fail to evacuate during a drill or emergency are subject to disciplinary action and referral to a fire safety education workshop.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTIONS

There will be monthly inspections made of rooms and apartments/ suites to ensure that everyone is living in conditions that are safe and healthy. Residence Life Staff will be looking for issues such as over- loaded electrical outlets, illegal cooking equipment, and stan- dard cleanliness and hygiene issues. These inspections are to ensure the health and safety of the community. If residents are found in violation of health and safety standards, they will have seven days to correct the problem. If the problem is not corrected in that time, residents will face disciplinary action.

FIRE DRILLS

University policy requires all building occupants to evacuate the building in the event of fire alarms/emergencies. To facilitate rein- forcement of this requirement, WCU Environmental Health and Safety, in partnership with the Department of Public Safety and Resident Life, organize fire drills throughout the year to train the building occupants about the applicable evacuation procedures, in Academic and Administrative Buildings and the Residence Halls.

Fire drills are intended to teach behavior which can help you survive a fire emergency, prepare you with alternative escape routes and help you understand your responsibilities in the event of a fire.

EH&S coordinates with facility/building managers, and Public Safety to observe and monitor the basic life safety systems of the building.

As part of West Chester University’s fire awareness and fire preven- tion initiative for Academic and Administrative Buildings and the Residence Halls, fire drills are conducted to review the following:

- Physical layout of the building
- Identify possible fire/safety hazards
- Observe the audible/visible alarm devices
- Observe the evacuation of the building
- Observe the behavior of building occupants
- The building’s emergency evacuation plan

All of the drills conducted are unannounced to simulate an actual building evacuation.

Fire Drills conducted in Residence Life by Year

Housing Facility	2022	2023	2024
College Arms Apartments	4	4	4
Goshen Hall	4	4	4
Killinger Hall	4	4	4
Schmidt Hall	5	5	4
South Campus Apartments	4	4	4
Tyson Hall	4	4	5
Operated by Universty Student Housing LLC			
Allegheny Hall	4	4	4
Brandywine Hall	4	4	4
Commonwealth Hall *	4	4	4
East Village Apartments	4	4	4
University Hall	4	4	4
Village Apartments	4	4	4

ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING ANNUAL FIRE STATISTICS

Residential Facilities Statistics for 2022

Residence Name and street address	Total Fires in Each Building	DPS Incident Number	Date Reported	Cause of Fire	Injuries that required Treatment at Medical Facility	Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Property damaged by Fire
Goshen Hall 125 North Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Killinger Hall 115 West Rosedale Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Schmidtt Hall 225 West Rosedale Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tyson Hall 225 North Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments North 721 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments East 731 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments South 733 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 831 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 833 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 835 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 837 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 839 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 840 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 840 South Campus Drive	1	WC-22-04568	11/20/22	Electrical Box - Malfunction	0	0	\$100-\$999
South Campus Apartments 842 South Campus Drive	1	WC-22-01695	4/26/22	Unintentional Grease fire - Dirty stove top	0	0	\$100-\$999
South Campus Apartments 844 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 846 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 848 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 850 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 852 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Avenue	1	WC-22-00303	2/1/22	Unintentional Appliance fire- overloaded washer	0	0	\$1,000-9,999
Brandywine Hall 709 South New Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Commonwealth Hall 715 South New St"	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
University Hall 180 University Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 182 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Village Apartments 183 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 184 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 185 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 186 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 187 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 188 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 189 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 190 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 191 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 192 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 193 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 250 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 252 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 254 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 256 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 258 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities Statistics for 2023

Residence Name and street address	Total Fires in Each Building	DPS Incident Number	Date Reported	Cause of Fire	Injuries that required Treatment at Medical Facility	Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Property damaged by Fire
Goshen Hall 125 North Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Killinger Hall 115 West Rosedale Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Schmitt Hall 225 West Rosedale Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tyson Hall 225 North Campus Drive	1	WC-23-01383	4/12/2023	Mulch Fire-accidental	N/A	N/A	\$1-99
College Arms Apartments North 721 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

College Arms Apartments East 731 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments South 733 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 831 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 833 South Campus Drive	1	WC-23-00859	3/6/23	Water Heater - Malfunction	0	0	\$1,000-9,999
South Campus Apartments 835 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 837 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 839 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 840 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 840 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 842 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 844 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 846 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 848 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 850 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 852 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Avenue	1	WC-23-00417	2/9/23	Unintentional Appliance fire- overloaded washer	0	0	\$100-\$999
Brandywine Hall 709 South New Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Commonwealth Hall 715 South New St"	2	WC-23-03178 WC-23-04403	9/18/2023 12/5/2023	Outlet Smoking- malfunction Unintentional appliance fire- overloaded washer	N/A	N/A	\$100-999 \$100-999
University Hall 180 University Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 182 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 183 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 184 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 185 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Village Apartments 186 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 187 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 188 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 189 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 190 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 191 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 192 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 193 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 250 East Carety Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 252 East Carety Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 254 East Carety Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 256 East Carety Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 258 East Carety Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Residential Facilities Statistics for 2024

Residence Name and street address	Total Fires in Each Building	DPS Incident Number	Date Reported	Cause of Fire	Injuries that required Treatment at Medical Facility	Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Property damaged by Fire
Goshen Hall 125 North Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Killinger Hall 115 West Rosedale Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Schmidt Hall 225 West Rosedale Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tyson Hall 225 North Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments North 721 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments East 731 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
College Arms Apartments South 733 South High Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 831 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

South Campus Apartments 833 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 835 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 837 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 839 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 840 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 842 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 844 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 846 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 848 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 850 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Campus Apartments 852 South Campus Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Avenue	1	WC-24-02482	9/8/24	Unintentional Appliance fire- overloaded washer	0	0	\$100-\$999
Brandywine Hall 709 South New Street	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Commonwealth Hall 715 South New St"	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
University Hall 180 University Avenue	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Alleghany Hall 121 W. Rosedale Hall	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 182 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 183 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 184 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 185 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 186 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 187 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 188 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Village Apartments 189 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 190 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 191 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 192 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Village Apartments 193 Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 250 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 252 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 254 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 256 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
East Village Apartments 258 East Carey Drive	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

West Chester University — Residential Facilities Fire Log

Date Reported	DPS Incident #	Date and Time Occurred	Location	Nature of Fire
2/1/22	WC-22-00303	2/1/2022 @ 2:00pm	121 W. Rosedale	Appliance fire – overloaded washer
4/26/22	WC-22-01695	4/26/2022 @ 11:42pm	842 South Campus Drive	Oven Fire- Accidental
11/20/22	WC-22-04568	11/20/2022 @ 10:22pm	840 South Campus Drive	Electrical Box – Malfunction
2/9/23	WC-23-00417	2/9/2023 @ 7:32pm	121 W. Rosedale	Appliance fire – Overloaded washer
3/6/23	WC-23-00859	3/6/2023 @ 7:28pm	833 S. Campus Drive	Appliance fire – Water Heater Malfunction
4/12/23	WC-23-01383	4/12/2023 @ 4:11pm	225 N Campus Drive	Mulch Fire – Accidental
9/18/23	WC-23-03178	9/18/2023 @ 7:15pm	715 S. New Street	Outlet Smoking – Malfunction
12/5/23	WC-23-04403	12/5/2023 @ 9:19pm	715 S. New Street	Appliance fire – Overloaded washer
9/8/24	WC-24-02482	9/8/2024 @ 2:20pm	121 W. Rosedale	Appliance fire – overloaded washer

PLANS FOR FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN FIRE SAFETY

All current fire alarm systems meet the relevant codes and regulations.

To enhance fire safety awareness and education among students, we plan to continue our collaboration with Residence Life. Together, we will develop innovative methods to increase understanding of various fire safety aspects. Additionally, our partnership with the West Chester Fire Department will be ongoing, allowing us to expand our fire prevention programs and benefit from their expertise.

2025 ANNUAL

STATISTICS REPORTS

Chart 1: Crimes Reported to West Chester University Police, Campus Security Authority, or Local Police on Main Campus
Crimes reported in this table are those reported during calendar year 2024

OFFENSE	YEAR	TOTAL ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	ON-CAMPUS RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	NON-CAMPUS BUILDINGS OR PROPERTY	PUBLIC PROPERTY	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/ Nonnegligent Manslaughter	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2024	6	6	0	0	0
	2023	7	7	0	0	0
	2022	10	9	3	0	0
Fondling	2024	4	4	0	0	0
	2023	8	7	0	0	0
	2022	3	3	2	0	0
Statutory Rape	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	2	0	0	1	0
Aggravated Assault	2024	2	1	1	2	0
	2023	5	2	0	2	0
	2022	3	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2024	7	4	0	0	0
	2023	7	4	0	0	0
	2022	9	7	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2024	1	0	0	0	0
	2023	1	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0

Arson	2024	1	1	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	1	0	0	0	0
Arrests: Weapons Law Violations	2024	2	0	0	1	0
	2023	0	0	0	2	0
	2022	0	0	0	1	0
Arrests: Drug Law Violations	2024	4	1	0	1	0
	2023	12	5	0	5	0
	2022	18	12	0	2	0
Arrests: Liquor Law Violations	2024	202	160	0	22	0
	2023	207	172	0	11	0
	2022	212	162	0	8	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Weapons Law Violations	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	3	3	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Drug Law Violations	2024	92	51	0	3	0
	2023	107	50	0	1	0
	2022	119	77	0	9	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Liquor Law Violations	2024	536	510	0	9	0
	2023	360	344	0	2	0
	2022	451	425	16	2	0
Dating Violence	2024	7	6	0	0	0
	2023	15	10	0	2	0
	2022	5	2	0	2	0
Domestic Violence	2024	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	1	1	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2024	15	9	0	0	0
	2023	10	9	0	1	0
	2022	5	3	0	0	0

2024: 1 On-campus Intimidation characterized by race and 1 on-campus student housing facility intimidation characterized by race

2023: 1 On-Campus Intimidation characterized by Religion.

2023: 1 On-Campus Intimidation characterized by Sexual Orientation.

2023: 1 On-Campus and On-Campus Student Housing Facility Intimidation characterized by Religion.

2023: 1 On-Campus and On-Campus Student Housing Facility Intimidation characterized by Sexual Orientation.

2022: No Hate Crimes Reported

For 2022, 2023, and 2024 there were no unfounded crimes on West Chester University's main campus.

Chart 2: Crimes Reported to West Chester University Police, West Goshen Township Police, Campus Security Authority, or Local Police at the Graduate Business Center*

OFFENSE	YEAR	TOTAL ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	PUBLIC PROPERTY	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/ Nonnegligent Manslaughter	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Rape	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Fondling	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Incest	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Robbery	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Burglary	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arson	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arrests: Liquor Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arrests: Drug Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arrests: Weapons Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0

Disciplinary Referrals: Liquor Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Drug Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Weapons Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Stalking	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0

* The Graduate Center location does not have on-campus student housing facilities, nor does it have any non-campus property associated with this location.

There were no hate crimes reported for the Graduate Business Center for the reporting periods of 2022, 2023, and 2024

For 2022, 2023, and 2024 there were no unfounded crimes on West Chester University's Graduate Center location

Chart 3: Crimes Reported to West Chester University Police, West Whiteland Police, Campus Security Authorities, or Local Police at the Exton location*

OFFENSE	YEAR	TOTAL ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	PUBLIC PROPERTY	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/ Nonnegligent Manslaughter	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Rape	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Fondling	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Incest	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0

Robbery	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Burglary	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arson	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arrests: Liquor Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arrests: Drug Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Arrests: Weapons Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Liquor Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Drug Law Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Weapons Violations	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0
Stalking	2024	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0

* The Exton location does not have any on-campus student housing facilities, nor does it have any non-campus property associated with this location

There were no hate crimes reported for the Exton Campus for the reporting periods of 2022, 2023, and 2024

For 2023, 2023, and 2024 there were no unfounded crimes on West Chester University's Exton Campus

**Chart 4: West Chester University, Main Campus Crime Statistics, Crimes Reported to WCU Police Department or a Campus Security Authority
PA Uniform Crime Reporting Act Report**

Crime Categories	2024 FTE= 13527		2023 FTE=13804		2022 FTE= 14,036	
Part I Offenses	Actual Offenses**	Crime Rate*	Actual Offenses**	Crime Rate*	Actual Offenses**	Crime Rate*
Criminal Homicide						
Murder and nonnegligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape						
Rape by Force	0	0	0	0	1	7.124536905
Assault to Rape- Attempts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery						
Firearm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knife or Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strong Arm (Hands Fists, Feet, etc)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault- Aggravated						
Firearm	0	0	0	0	1	7.124536905
Knife or Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hands, Fist, Feet, etc.	2	14.78524433	3	21.73283106	2	14.24907381
Other Assaults, Not Aggravated	4	29.57048865	11	79.68704723	17	121.1171274
Burglary						
Forcible Entry	9	66.53359947	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Entry- No Force	1	7.392622163	0	0	0	0
Attempted Forcible Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny- Theft (Exc. Motor Vehicles)	7	51.74835514	18	130.3969864	29	206.6115702
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autos	0	0	1	7.244277021	0	0
Trucks and Buses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	1	7.392622163	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PART I OFFENSES	24	177.4229319	33	239.0611417	50	356.2268453
PART II OFFENSES						
Forgery	1	7.392622163	1	7.244277021	2	14.24907381
Fraud	5	36.96311082	9	65.19849319	5	35.62268453
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property, Receiving, Possession, etc.	4	29.57048865	1	7.244277021	3	21.37361072
Vandalism	8	59.1409773	8	57.95421617	21	149.615275
Weapons, Carrying, Possession, etc.	1	7.392622163	2	14.48855404	1	7.124536905
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses (Excluding Prostitution & Rape)	0	0	2	14.48855404	1	7.124536905
Drug Abuse Violations (total number)	2	14.78524433	13	94.17560127	0	0
S Opium- Cocaine	0	0	0	0	0	0

A Marijuana	0	0	2	14.48855404	0	0
L Synthetic	0	0	1	7.244277021	0	0
E Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
P Opium- Cocaine	0	0	0	0	0	0
O Marijuana	2	14.78524433	9	65.19849319	14	99.74351667
S Synthetic	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Other	0	0	1	7.244277021	2	14.24907381
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bookmaking	0	0	0	0	0	0
Numbers, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family and Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driving Under the Influence	7	51.74835514	14	101.4198783	12	85.49444286
Liquor Laws	205	1515.487543	206	1492.321066	153	1090.054146
Drunkenness	10	73.92622163	22	159.3740945	21	149.615275
Disorderly Conduct	11	81.31884379	12	86.93132425	6	42.74722143
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL Other Offenses (excluding Traffic)	10	73.92622163	27	195.5954796	19	135.3662012
PART II OFFENSES	262	1936.867007	330	2390.611417	260	1852.379595
TOTAL PART I AND PART II OFFENSES	286	2114.289939	363	2629.672559	310	2208.606441

* The Crime Rate is based on the actual number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and employees calculated using the formula prescribed in the PA UCR Act

The Index in the table above is based on incidents reported per 100,000 FTEs.

The Crime Rate is the decimalized product of the formula used to calculate the rate. For example, the 21.0659364 figure means based on the crime rate there are 21 rapes for 100000 full-time equivalent students and employees.

**Statistics provided by West Chester University Police Department

The UCR report counts only crimes cleared by ARRESTS, thus the figures above are for offenses cleared by arrest only. These figures do not include incidents where the disposition was anything other than an arrest.

**Chart 5: West Chester University Graduate Center Location Crime Statistics, Crimes Reported to WCU Police Department or a Campus Security Authority
PA Uniform Crime Reporting Act Report**

Crime Categories	2024 FTE= 228.2		2023 FTE= 178.8		2022 FTE= 178.5	
Part I Offenses	Actual Offenses	Crime Rate*	Actual Offenses	Crime Rate*	Actual Offenses	Crime Rate*
Criminal Homicide						
Murder and nonnegligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape						
Rape by Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault to Rape- Attempts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery						
Firearm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knife or Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strong Arm (Hands Fists, Feet, etc)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault- Aggravated						
Firearm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knife or Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hands, Fist, Feet, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Assaults, Not Aggravated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary						
Forcible Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Entry- No Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted Forcible Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny- Theft (Exc. Motor Vehicles)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autos	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trucks and Buses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PART I OFFENSES	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART II OFFENSES						
Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud	0	0	0	0	0	0
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property, Receiving, Possession, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons, Carrying, Possession, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses (Excluding Prostitution & Rape)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations (total number)	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Opium- Cocaine	0	0	0	0	0	0

A Marijuana	0	0	0	0	0	0
L Synthetic	0	0	0	0	0	0
E Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
P Opium- Cocaine	0	0	0	0	0	0
O Marijuana	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Synthetic	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bookmaking	0	0	0	0	0	0
Numbers, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family and Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driving Under the Influence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Laws	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drunkenness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL Other Offenses (excluding Traffic)	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART II OFFENSES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PART I AND PART II OFFENSES	0	0	0	0	0	0

* The Crime Rate is based on the actual number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and employees calculated using the formula in the PA UCR Act.

The Index in the table above is based on incidents reported per 100,00 FTEs.

Statistics provided by West Goshen Township Police Department

**Chart 6: West Chester University Exton Location Crime Statistics, Crimes Reported to WCU Police Department or Campus Security Authority
PA Uniform Crime Reporting Act Report**

Crime Categories	2024 FTE= 45.3		2023 FTE= 81.8		2022 FTE= 73.5	
	Actual Offenses	Crime Rate*	Actual Offenses	Crime Rate*	Actual Offenses	Crime Rate*
Criminal Homicide						
Murder and nonnegligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape						
Rape by Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault to Rape- Attempts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery						
Firearm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knife or Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strong Arm (Hands Fists, Feet, etc)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assault- Aggravated						
Firearm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knife or Cutting Instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Dangerous Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hands, Fist, Feet, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Assaults, Not Aggravated	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary						
Forcible Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Entry- No Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempted Forcible Entry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny- Theft (Exc. Motor Vehicles)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0
Autos	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trucks and Buses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PART I OFFENSES	0	0	0	0	0	0

PART II OFFENSES						
Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud	0	0	0	0	0	0
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property, Receiving, Possession, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons, Carrying, Possession, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses (Excluding Prostitution & Rape)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations (total number)	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Opium- Cocaine	0	0	0	0	0	0
A Marijuana	0	0	0	0	0	0
L Synthetic	0	0	0	0	0	0
E Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
P Opium- Cocaine	0	0	0	0	0	0
O Marijuana	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Synthetic	0	0	0	0	0	0
S Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bookmaking	0	0	0	0	0	0
Numbers, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family and Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Driving Under the Influence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Laws	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drunkenness	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL Other Offenses (excluding Traffic)	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART II OFFENSES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PART I AND PART II OFFENSES	0	0	0	0	0	0

* The Crime Rate is based on the actual number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and employees calculated using the formula in the PA UCR Act.

The Index in the table above is based on incidents reported per 100,00 FTEs.

**The Crime Rate is the decimalized product of the state-mandated formula used to calculate the rate. For example, the 21.0659364 figure means based on the crime rate there are 21 rapes for 100000 full-time equivalent students and employees.

Statistics provided by West Whiteland Police Department

Contact Numbers

West Chester University Police Department (On Campus)

For emergencies dial 911, or 610-436-3311, or 3311
from an on-campus phone

The Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion

610-436-2433

Counseling and Psychological Services (Counseling Center)

610-436-2301

Office of Wellness Promotion

610-436-2509

Office of Student Conduct

610-436-3511

Center for Women and Gender Equity

610-436-2122

Borough of West Chester Emergency Numbers

West Chester Borough Police, Fire, Ambulance
(Off-campus) 911

Domestic Violence Center of Chester County

610-431-1430

Crime Victims Center of Chester County

610-696-1926

It's the Law

Federal and Pennsylvania state laws mandate that you receive a brochure like this and dictate much of the information that is included.

If you would like to have a paper copy of the report mailed to you, call 610-436-3311. You may also pick one up at the West Chester University Police Department in the Peoples Building at Church Street and University Avenue during normal business hours. Or you can visit the Department of Public Safety Website at www.wcupa.edu for more information.