

# Title IX and Sexual Misconduct

## WHAT IS TITLE IX?

Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination based on sex in the educational environment. Sex-based discrimination includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, and dating & domestic violence (collectively called “sexual misconduct”).

PVAMU is committed to providing an educational environment free from discrimination and harassment. The university treats every report of sexual misconduct seriously and will address and/or investigate each incident. Students and employees who violate university policies may be subject to discipline.

All PVAMU employees (except for those designated as “confidential”) are required to promptly report to the Title IX Coordinator any incident of sexual misconduct that comes to their attention. Any student or community member who experiences sexual misconduct is encouraged to file a report of their experience in the Office of Title IX Compliance and/or with law enforcement. The Office of Title IX Compliance can enact remedial measures to protect the parties involved, even if the complainant does not want to move forward with a formal investigation. Remedial measures may include, but are not limited to, changes to academic, living, or working conditions on campus. For more information on reporting and remedial measures, see the Title IX website at [www.pvamu.edu/titleix](http://www.pvamu.edu/titleix).

# Options If You Experience Sexual Misconduct

## GET TO A SAFE LOCATION

**In an emergency, call 911**  
To contact UPD directly at the PVAMU main campus, call 936-261-1375.

## SEEK MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

After unwanted sexual contact, you may want to seek medical attention to treat injuries, sexually transmitted diseases and more.

## PRESERVE EVIDENCE

Even if you have not yet decided whether to pursue a criminal investigation, preserving physical evidence is recommended.

- After a sexual assault, do not shower or brush your teeth until you have considered whether to have a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE). A SAFE exam can be conducted within 120 hours of the assault. You do not need to make a formal report or press charges to have a SAFE exam. To receive a SAFE exam, contact UPD or local law enforcement.
- Save the clothes you were wearing (unwashed) in a paper or cloth bag.
- Take photos of any damage or injury and keep communication records (e.g. texts, emails, letters).

## FILE A COMPLAINT

Students are encouraged to report crimes of sexual misconduct to law enforcement and the university. See the “How to Report” panel to learn how to file a complaint with UPD or with the Office of Title IX Compliance at PVAMU.

# How to Report

Students are strongly encouraged, but are not required, to report sexual misconduct to the police and to the university for assistance and investigation. A student may request assistance from the Office of Title IX Compliance, or another on-campus resource, to notify law enforcement of the offense. Students who experience sexual misconduct have the right to report the incident without further participation in an investigation.

## University Police Department (UPD)

**936-261-1375 (non-emergency);**  
**936-261-2222 (anonymous tip line);**  
**911 (emergency)**

**[www.pvamu.edu/upd](http://www.pvamu.edu/upd)**

UPD is located at 36142 Owens Rd, Prairie View, TX 77445.

UPD takes the lead in providing a safe environment for the university community by protecting life and property.

## Office of Title IX Compliance and the Title IX Coordinator

**936-261-2166 or 936-261-2144**

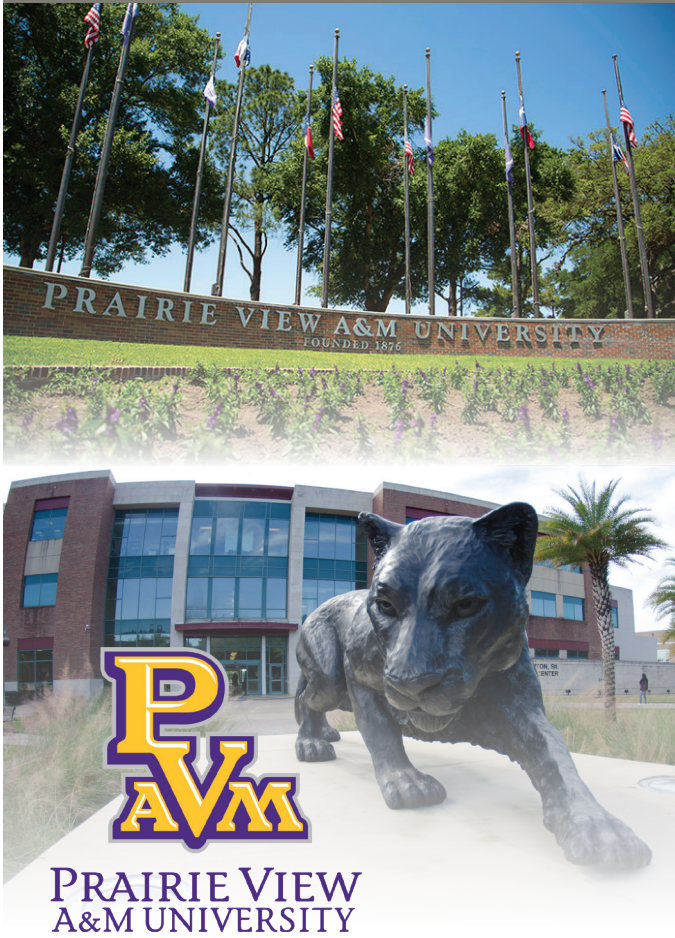
**[www.pvamu.edu/titleix](http://www.pvamu.edu/titleix)**

Harrington Science Bldg, Suite 311

The mission of the Office of Title IX Compliance is to promote and provide a discrimination free workplace, learning and living environment, where every community member is treated with respect and dignity, free of discrimination and harassment. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that all reports of sexual misconduct are addressed and/or investigated by the university. Anonymous reporting is also available for students on the Title IX webpage.

# The PVAMU Guide to Sexual Misconduct Reporting, Policies and Resources

[www.pvamu.edu/titleix](http://www.pvamu.edu/titleix)



## Definitions

**Sexual Harassment** is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it interferes with a person's work or educational environment.

**Sexual Assault** is sexual activity [such as vaginal or oral sex] that occurs without consent.

**Stalking** is repetitive conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety.

**Dating/Domestic Violence** is violence committed by a person who is, or was, in a social, romantic or intimate relationship with the complainant.

**Sexual Exploitation** involves taking sexual advantage of another person for one's own benefit. Examples include: voyeurism, exposing one's genitals or knowingly transmitting an STD.

### UNDERSTANDING CONSENT

Consent is a clear, voluntary and ongoing agreement to engage in a specific sexual act.

#### Consent is:

- Permission to engage in a sexual act
- Indicated through words or physical actions
- Able to be withdrawn at any time

#### Consent cannot be:

- Obtained through force or coercion
- Given by someone who is mentally or physically incapacitated
- Assumed by silence; there must be affirmative words or actions to indicate consent

Please find full definitions in TAMUS Regulation 08.01.01 and note that they are not the same definitions used by law enforcement.

## Other Assistance

### Protective Orders:

A protective order is a civil order issued by a court to prevent continuing acts of family violence, dating violence, stalking or sexual assault. Generally, a protective order is valid for up to two (2) years and is enforceable by law enforcement. An emergency protective order can also be requested at the time of an arrest and is valid up to 91 days if issued by the magistrate.

### Visa and Immigration Assistance:

If you are an international student, PVAMU's International Student Services (ISS) is available to answer questions about how a criminal or university investigation might impact your visa. ISS is located in May Hall, Room 120 and can be contacted at 936-261-2132.

### Health Services:

PVAMU's Health Services provides professional and comprehensive medical care, health education and health promotion for a diverse population of students, faculty, staff and community. Health Services provides STD tests, pregnancy tests, health screenings and more, to PVAMU students at low cost. Health Services is located on the first floor of the Hobart Taylor Building and can be contacted at 936-261-1410.



## On-Campus Resources

### CONFIDENTIAL

Not required to report any information you share to UPD or Title IX

### Relationship & Sexual Violence Program (RSVP) 936-261-1468

RSVP offers Crisis Intervention Counseling for victims/survivors of sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking. RSVP also offers safety planning, referrals, victim advocacy and emotional support for victims.

### Student Counseling Services (SCS)

**936-261-3564;**  
**936-553-0990 (24-hour Crisis Hotline)**

SCS offers individual, couples, academic skills, and group counseling for students. Students can access SCS at the PVAMU Main Campus, Northwest Houston Center and the College of Nursing.

### NON-CONFIDENTIAL

Required to report sexual misconduct to Title IX

### Dean of Students Office 936-261-3552

The Dean of Students' (DOS) role is to assist and support students in achieving their academic and personal goals. The DOS intentionally promotes student learning and development through varied, high-quality services and programs.

### Housing & Residence Life (HRL) 936-261-2600 (available M-F 8-5) On-call Housing Representatives available 24 hours a day.

Housing & Residence Life (HRL)/American Campus Communities (ACC) provides a safe, diverse, and well maintained on-campus environment that complements and supports the academic mission of the university. On-campus residents, who are involved in, or witness to, incidents of sexual misconduct, may seek assistance from housing representatives 24-hours a day.

## Off-Campus Resources

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Available 24 hours a day

### Focusing Families

**[www.focusing-families.org](http://www.focusing-families.org)**

910 9th St, Hempstead, TX 77445

Phone: 979-826-3290; Crisis Line: 877-237-2339

### Houston Area Women's Center

**[www.hawc.org](http://www.hawc.org)**

Domestic Hotline: 713-528-2121

Sexual Assault Hotline: 713-528-7273

1010 Waugh Dr, Houston, TX 77019

### National Sexual Assault Hotline

**[Hotline.rainn.org](http://Hotline.rainn.org)**

800-656-HOPE

### National Domestic Violence Hotline

**[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)**

1-800-799-7233

## HOSPITALS & CLINICS

### Memorial Hermann Hospital

6400 Fannin St, Houston, TX 77030

### Memorial Hermann Cypress

27800 Northwest Fwy, Cypress, TX 77433

### North Cypress Medical Center

21214 Northwest Fwy, Cypress, TX 77429

### Scott & White Medical Center - College Station

700 Scott and White Dr, College Station, TX 77845