NEW YORK COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS Sexual Assault Crime Prevention

- The New York College of Health Professions is committed to providing an atmosphere in which students can pursue their educational goals and achieve personal growth.
- Maintaining a safe environment for students, faculty, and staff has long been recognized as an essential part of the college life.

At the New York College of Health Professions, safety and security are of the highest priority and are considered a shared responsibility, requiring the cooperation of the entire college community concerned.

- The College has established policies and procedures to ensure the wellbeing of members of the college community.
- All forms of discrimination, harassment (including sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking) and retaliation are prohibited on the campus.

- The College advises and updates the college community about security procedures through a variety of means, including College publications, on-campus meetings and trainings, new student orientation programs, internet resources, and email, as necessary.
- For information on resources and reporting visit <u>NYCHP Campus</u> <u>Security</u>

What is a Sexual Assault Crime?

Sexual assault encompasses two categories of misconduct Nonconsensual sexual contact Nonconsensual sexual intercourse

What is a Sexual Assault Crime?

Nonconsensual Sexual Contact

- Nonconsensual sexual contact is any intentional touching however slight, whether clothed or unclothed with any object or body part by a person against another person this is without consent and/or by force.
- 2. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - a. intentional contact with the breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals
 - b. intentional touching of another with breasts, buttock, groin, or genitals
 - c. making another person touch someone or themselves in a sexual manner
 - d. any intentional bodily contact in sexual manner

What is a Sexual Assault Crime?

Nonconsensual Sexual Intercourse

- Nonconsensual sexual intercourse is any sexual intercourse, however slight, with any object or body part by a person against another person that is without consent and/or by force.
- 2. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - a. vaginal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or fingerb. anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or fingerc. oral copulation (mouth to genital or genital to mouth contact)

Consent

Consent is a conscious, voluntary, mutually understandable, equal, respectful, continuous, and freely communicated agreement to participate in a sexual encounter. The definition of consent does not vary based upon a participant's sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression. Each person involved in the sexual activity is responsible to ensure that they have the affirmative consent of the other or others to engage in the sexual activity.

Consent

- Affirmative consent must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity and can be revoked at any time. Consenting to a specific sexual activity does not constitute consent to any other sexual act. Consent is not assumed based on previous consensual encounters or implied by a relationship. Consent to a sexual encounter with one person does not constitute consent to such an encounter with another.
- Click here for the NYCHP policy on Affirmative consent <u>NYCHP Policy on Affirmative Consent</u>

Consent

Consent does not exist when there is the presence of threat or intimidation. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean consent. Silence does not mean consent. Consent cannot be given when a person is incapacitated. Incapacitation occurs when an individual lacks the ability to fully, knowingly, choose to participate in sexual activity.

Common Myths About Sexual Assault

"The person asked for it."

No one asks to be sexually assaulted. No one deserves to be sexually assaulted because of their clothing, behavior, appearance or for any other reason.

"It can't happen to me."

Anyone can be a victim of sexual assault, regardless of their age, race, gender, sexual orientation, educational background or income level. "The primary motive for rape is sex." Rape is a crime of power, violence and control.

"Rape only occurs among strangers." Seventy percent of rape cases are committed by someone known to the victim.

Common Myths

"No one can be forced to have sex against their will." Anyone can be forced to have sex against their will by the threat or use of force.

Most rape victims suffer visible physical injury from the incident." More than two-thirds of all rape victims do not sustain any visible physical injuries from their attack.

Who Is Most Vulnerable To Sexual Assault?

- Studies indicate that persons between 16 and 24 years old are most often victims of sexual assault.
- College students, especially first-year students, are the most vulnerable because they may be:
 - Away from home for the first time
 Confronted with new social situations
 Emotionally vulnerable

Safety Tips

Be aware of your surroundings.

Stay in well-lit areas. Be wary of isolated spots. Be mindful that cellphone and headphone use can limit your awareness of surroundings.

Trust your instincts.

If a situation, place or person makes you uncomfortable, leave. Have your keys ready before you reach the door to your residence, office or car.

Using alcohol and drugs may increase your risk of being the victim of a crime.

Safety Tips

- Never leave any drink unattended.
- > Make sure your cellphone is charged before you leave home.
- If you see something, say something, but do not put yourself in harm's way.
 - Call 911
- Let your friends know where you are.

What To Do If A Sexual Assault Occurs

- Go to a safe place and contact the proper authorities immediately. (See Reporting Sexual Assault section.)
- Be mindful of preserving all possible evidence. Do not change clothes, shower, douche, comb hair, brush teeth, eat or drink. And, if possible, do not urinate.
- Get a medical examination to ensure treatment. There may be hidden physical injuries

Reporting a Sexual Assault Incident

- Nassau County Police: dial 911
- Student Services: 516-364-0808 extension 509
- Dean, School of Massage Therapy: 516-364-0808 extension 201
- Dean, GSAHM: 516-364-08080 extension 232

Alcohol and/or Drug Use Amnesty Policy

"The health and safety of every student at the New York College of Health Profession is of utmost importance. The New York College of Health Professions recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time that violence, including but not limited to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault occurs may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct.

Alcohol and/or Drug Use Amnesty Policy

The New York College of Health Professions strongly encourages students to report domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to institution officials. A bystander acting in good faith or a reporting individual acting in good faith that discloses any incident of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to the New York College of Health Profession's officials or law enforcement will not be subject to the New York College of Health Profession's code of conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault."

Support Services

The Safe Center Long Island 24/7-hour hotline: 516-542-0404 Counselors are specially trained in domestic/dating abuse, rape/sexual assault, and crisis intervention. Web: The Safe Center LI (tscli.org)

Support Services

VIBS (Victim Information Bureau of Suffolk)

24/7 hour hotline

Free and confidential services to victims of domestic violence, rape & sexual assault
631.360.3606
Email: hotline@vibs.org
Web: http://www.vibs.org

Retaliation

 Retaliation is an intentional action taken by an accused individual or allied third party, absent legitimate nondiscriminatory purposes, that harms or attempts to harm an individual as reprisal for filing a complaint, supporting a complainant, or otherwise participating in a proceeding.
 Under no circumstances will the New York College of Health Professions tolerate any form of the above retaliation

Title IX

- Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. Sexual harassment, sexual assault and sexual violence are considered forms of sexual discrimination.
- Title IX protects both students and employees from the above discrimination by any University employee, student or non-employee third party.

Title IX

N.Y. Article 129-B mirrors Title IX and applies to conduct that has a reasonable connection to the College.
 All such incidents should be reported to the New York College of Health Professions Title IX Coordinators

Amy Kotowski, Title IX Coordinator 516-364-0808 extension 507 Jaqueline McIntyre, Title IX Deputy Coordinator 516-364-0808 extension 505

Disciplinary Policies

- Sexual assault is a serious offense and can result in severe College sanctions, including suspension and expulsion.
- If there are sufficient grounds, the matter will be adjudicated consistent with the Code of Conduct. Both the complainant and the respondent can call witnesses, present evidence and be accompanied by an adviser of their choice.
- Both parties will be apprised of the outcome of the proceedings in writing as well as their right to appeal.

Disciplinary Policies

 Complainants of sexual assault are entitled to reasonable interim measures for academic, transportation, living and work schedule concerns, as well as no-contact orders.
 Contact the Title IX coordinators for assistance.

> Amy Kotowski, Title IX Coordinator 516-364-0808 extension 507 Jaqueline McIntyre, Title IX Deputy Coordinator 516-364-0808 extension 505

Resources

RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network) <u>https://www.rainn.org/</u>

Sexual Assault on College Campuses: Facts and Statistics | Best Colleges