

Title IX – Blinn College District: Know Your Rights

Student Online Training

Blinn College is committed to fostering a fair and safe environment for all students. Discrimination, including harassment or retaliation, against any student on the basis of race, color, religion, sex/gender, national origin, disability, age, or any other basis prohibited by law is strictly prohibited.

Title IX Office Contact Information

- **Location:** 902 College Avenue, Brenham TX 77833, Suite #213
- **Title IX Hotline:** 979-830-4700
- **Title IX email:** titleix@blinn.edu
- **Title IX Phone:** 979-830-4949

Office Staff:

- Title IX Coordinator: Dr. Adrienne McCain, 979-830-4216, adrienne.mccain@blinn.edu
- Title IX Investigator: BJ Williams, 979-830-4638, bj.williams@blinn.edu
- Title IX Investigator: Jessica Brisco, 979-830-4494, jessica.brisco@blinn.edu
- Administrative Assistant: Amy Anderson, 979-830-4519, amy.anderson@blinn.edu

What is Title IX?

Title IX is a federal civil rights law passed as part of the Education Amendments of 1972.

“No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Who Does Title IX Apply To?

Title IX applies to all students (as well as applicants for admission) at educational institutions (and off campus) , regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, part-time or full-time status, disability, race, or national origin, in all aspects of educational programs and activities. All students deserve the right to a fair and safe educational environment.

Statistics

- **Sexual Harassment and Violence:**
 - Two-thirds of college students experience sexual harassment.
 - Approximately 26% of all female undergraduate students and nearly 7% of all male undergraduate students have experienced sexual assault.
 - 13% of all graduate and undergraduate students experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation.
 - Among undergraduate students, 26.4% of females and 6.8% of males experience rape or sexual assault.
 - 5.8% of students have experienced stalking since entering college.
- **Reporting:**
 - 83% of students are aware of resources to report sexual violence, an increase from 78% in the previous year.
 - However, only 17% of students used formal university procedures to report and resolve incidents at one particular university.
- **Athletics:**
 - While both men's and women's participation in NCAA championship sports increased since Title IX's implementation, opportunities in men's sports have grown at a slightly faster rate since the early 2000s.
 - The overall women's sport participation rate is 11.1 percentage points lower than the average percentage of female undergraduates enrolled.

WHAT DOES TITLE IX COVER?

- Sexual Harassment
- Sexual Assault
- Dating Violence
- Domestic Violence
- Stalking
- Retaliation
- Discrimination based on pregnancy or parental status

Definitions

- **Sexual Harassment:** Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, persuasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity.
- **Sexual Assault:** An offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape.
- **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.
- **Domestic Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been a current or former spouse of the victim, person with whom the victim shares a child in common, or person who is cohabitating or have cohabitated with the victim.
- **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 suffer substantial emotional distress. The victim is usually selected, stalked, groomed or victimized.

Definition of Consent

Consent means the affirmative, unambiguous, and voluntary agreement to engage in a specific sexual activity during a sexual encounter.

Consent cannot be given by an individual who is:

- asleep;
- mentally or physically incapacitated, either through the effect of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason; or
- under duress, threat, coercion, or force.

Consent cannot be assumed or inferred under circumstances in which consent is not clear, including but not limited to:

- the absence of “no” or “stop;” or
- the existence of a prior or current relationship or sexual activity.

What is a Title IX Violation

Any incident that:

- includes unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; sexually motivated physical, verbal, or nonverbal conduct or other conduct and/or communication of a sexual nature
- Creates a hostile environment when the conduct is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or opportunities offered by an institution
- Causes a student to believe he/she must submit to the conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity or that an educational decision will be made based on whether or not the student submits to the conduct
- Meets the definition of stalking, dating violence, fondling, incest, rape, or statutory rape
- Is any form of sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or violence

Examples of Title IX Violations

Some common examples of Title IX violations, but not limited to:

- asking personal questions about sex life, fantasies, preferences, or history
- Telling lies or spreading rumors about a person's sex life
- Stalking or repeatedly asking out a person who is not interested
- Sexually suggestive remarks, jokes, stories, gestures, or catcalls
- sexual or obscene messages or pictures sent via text or computer
- sexual advances, propositions, insults, or threats
- unwelcome or inappropriate touching
- sexual violence or assault
- rape (including date rape)

Your Rights and Resources



Your Rights Under Title IX

- Right to report an incident
- Right to supportive measures
- Right to a fair and impartial process
- Right to an advisor during proceedings
- Right to be free from retaliation

Resources

Complainants and Respondents are provided with a Rights and Resources Letter explaining the process and offering on- and off-campus resources. Information regarding Title IX can be found in various formats:

- Board Policy FFD (LOCAL)
- College Catalog
- Residence Life Handbook
- Title IX web page
- Title IX brochure
- Sexual Assault poster

To file a Title IX complaint against Blinn College, contact:


Dallas Office
Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620
Dallas, Texas 75201-6810
(214) 661-9600 or TDD 800-877-8339
OCR.Dallas@ed.gov

How to Report

- Any Blinn employee or Resident Assistant (RA)
- Any Blinn Campus Police
- Any Blinn Counselor or Nurse
- Title IX Hotline at 979-830-4700
- Email: titleix@blinn.edu
- Report Online: www.blinn.edu/title-ix/file-complaint.html
- In Person: Office of Title IX, Brenham Campus
- Anonymous Reporting Available

Title IX Process and Procedures

The governance regarding freedom from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation for students can be found in Blinn College Board Policies [FFD \(LEGAL\)](#) and [FFD \(LOCAL\)](#).



The Process for Title IX violations can be found on the [Title IX website](#)

Obligation to Investigate

- Blinn College has an obligation to:
- Investigate all Title IX reports,
- take prompt and effective steps to end Title IX violations,
- Prevent Title IX violations from recurring, and
- Remedy the effect of Title IX violations.
- To the greatest extent possible, Blinn College will respect the privacy of the complainant, persons against whom a report is filed, and witnesses. Limited disclosures may be necessary in order to conduct a thorough investigation and comply with applicable law.

What Happens When You Report

- Initial outreach by the Title IX Coordinator
- Option to file a formal complaint to include:
 - Written notice to parties
 - Investigation
 - Live Hearing with cross examination
 - Determination of Responsibility
 - Right to Appeal
- Supportive Measures available:
 - Counseling
 - Campus escort services
 - Class or dorm room reassignments
 - Extensions of deadlines
 - No-Contact Directive
- Overview of investigation and hearing process

Your Privacy

- Reports are confidential to the extent possible
- FERPA –compliant processes
- Information shared only with those who “need to know”

Pregnant & Parenting Students

Title IX prohibits a school from discriminating against a student based on the student's pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions. Title IX also prohibits a school from applying any rule related to a student's parental, family, or marital status that treats students differently based on their sex.

- Allow you to continue participating in classes and extracurricular activities even though you are pregnant and not require you to submit a doctors note unless your school requires a doctor's note for all students who have a physical or emotional condition requiring treatment by a doctor.
- Excuse absences due to pregnancy or childbirth as long as your doctor say it is necessary.
- Allow you to return to the same academic and extracurricular status as before your medical leave began, to include giving you the opportunity to make up any work missed while you were out.

Retaliation is Prohibited

You cannot be punished or threatened for:

- Reporting misconduct
- Participating in an investigation

Examples of Social Retaliation:

- **Social Ostracism:** This could involve being excluded from social events, friend groups, or activities.
- **Bullying and Harassment** Students might face verbal harassment, name-calling, or other forms of bullying from peers who disagree with the Title IX complaint.
- **Spreading Rumors:** False or damaging information about the student who reported the violation could be spread to damage their reputation.
- **Exclusion from Groups:** Students who reported a violation might be excluded from sports teams, clubs, or other extracurricular activities.
- **Actions Targeting Educational Opportunities:**
 - **Lowering Grades:** A student might receive unfair or lower grades in retaliation for reporting a Title IX violation.
 - **Restricting Access to Resources:** Access to academic resources, tutoring, or other support services could be unfairly limited.
 - **Pressuring to Withdraw:** Students might be pressured to drop their Title IX complaint or withdraw from the investigation.

Quiz Time

Which of the following is NOT covered under Title IX?

- 1. Sexual Harassment
- 2. Stalking
- 3. Theft
- 4. Pregnancy Discrimination

Answer: Theft.

Title IX covers sexual harassment, stalking and pregnancy discrimination.

Quiz Time

What is a supportive measure under Title IX?

- 1. Counseling
- 2. Suspension
- 3. Arrest
- 4. Detention

Answer: Counseling.

Supportive measures can include counseling, class or dorm reassignments, extension of deadlines, and no contact directives.

Scenario #1 Example: Roommate Issue

Your roommate has been inviting a partner over frequently, and you overhear what sounds like aggressive or non-consensual behavior.

What can you do?

Answer: You can report your concerns to campus housing or the Title IX office. They will help determine the best course of action.

Scenario #2 Example: Field Trip Behavior

During a school-sponsored trip, a student makes repeated sexual jokes and comments about your appearance.

Does Title IX apply off-campus?

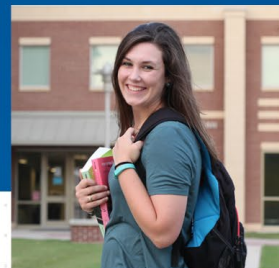
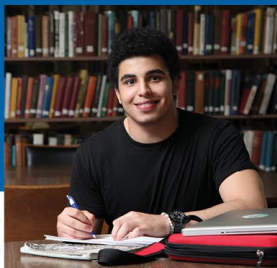
Answer: If it's a school-sponsored activity, Title IX protections apply. You should report the incident.

Scenario #3 Example: Withdrawal After Assault

A friend confides in you that they were assaulted and are considering dropping out of school.

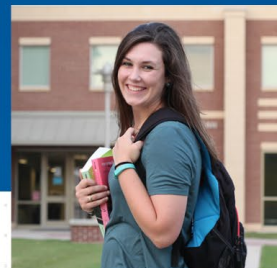
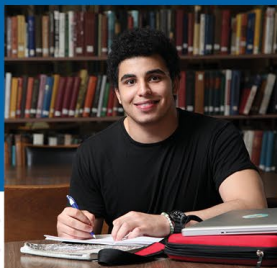
What can you do to help?

Answer: Encourage them to contact the Title IX office. Supportive measures can help them stay enrolled while they are receiving help.



Final Reminders

- All forms of sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or violence are strictly prohibited.
- Be careful of what you do and say, as it may be construed as sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or violence.
- Students who violate Blinn College policies and conduct codes may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.
- Do not disregard sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or violence violations, as the victim may not be able to speak up.
- Reporting violations of sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct, and/or violence can help to ensure the safety of the victim and the entire Blinn College District community.
- Title IX is here to protect you!
- You are not alone
- Ask questions, speak up, get support



Student Agreement

I have read the information provided in the Title IX Online Training. I am aware of Blinn College's Title Resources that are available to me. I understand the Blinn College District's Policy regarding Title IX and agree to abide by the terms of the Policy.

I am aware of Blinn College's Counseling Services and the Resources that are available to me.

Click the button below to confirm that you have completed Blinn's Title IX Online Training and Acknowledge the Student Agreement.

[Click Here](#)