



TITLE IX – BLINN COLLEGE DISTRICT

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 was created in the Education Amendments of 1972 to prohibit discrimination (to exclude, separate, deny benefits to or otherwise treat differently) based on sex. This includes discrimination based on same-sex, gender identity or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. Any form of sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct or violence will not be tolerated in the Blinn College community.



DOES TITLE IX APPLY TO ME?

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- 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Title IX Hotline: 979-830-4700

Location: 902 College Ave., Brenham, Tx 77833

Title IX Email : titleix@blinn.edu

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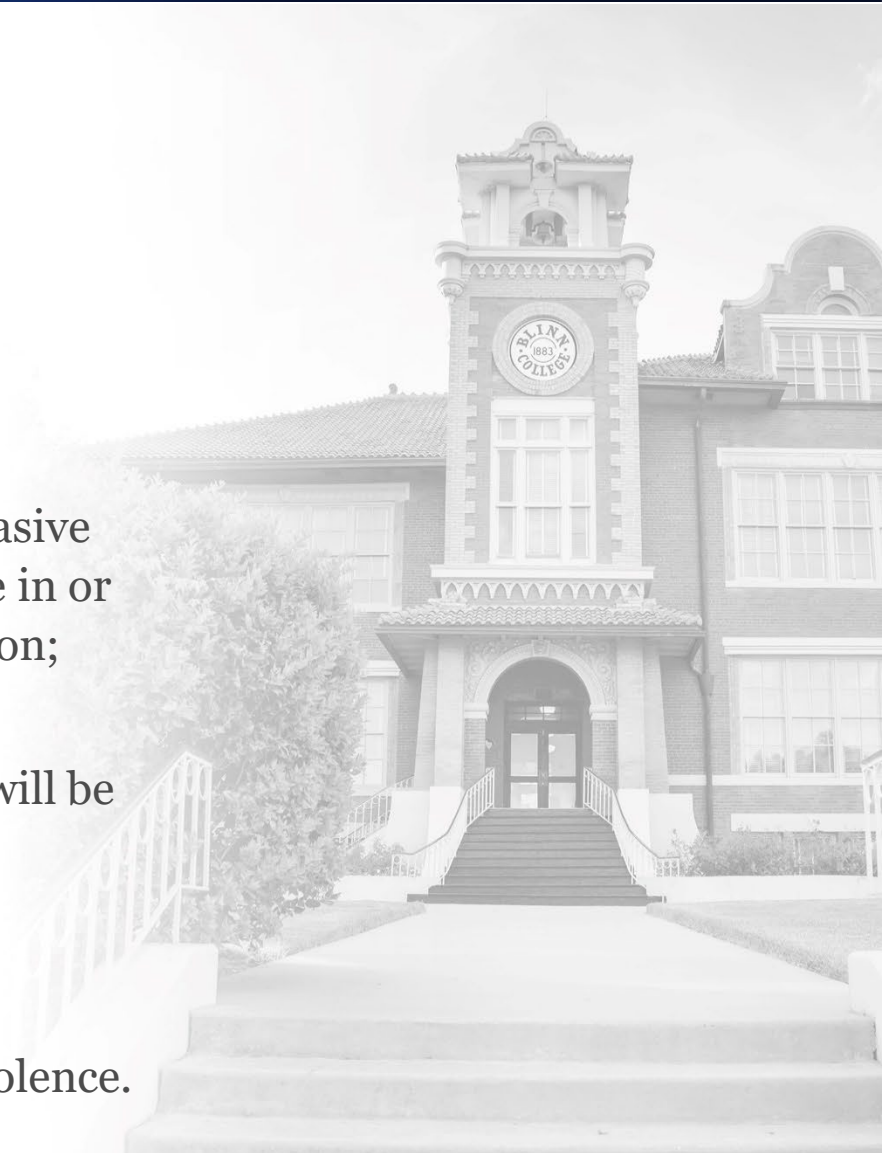
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WHAT IS A TITLE IX VIOLATION?

A Title IX violation is 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;
- or is any form of sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct and/or violence.



EXAMPLES OF TITLE IX VIOLATIONS

Common examples of Title IX violations include but are 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;
- and rape (including date rape).



STATISTICS

- 1 in 5 women are sexually assaulted while in college.
- 1 in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college.
- College students are the most vulnerable to sexual violence during the first few weeks of the first and second year.
- About 60% of on campus rapes occur in the residence of the victim, 31% in another residence, and 9% in fraternity houses.
- 90% of survivors on a college campus know their attackers.
- 75% of the victims of rape involving attackers known to them did not identify their experience as rape.
- Less than 5% of college rapes are reported.
- 97% of alcohol-related sexual assaults both parties were drinking.

One of the most persistent myths about rape is that the victim was somehow party to the offense: she was seductive or provocative and got what she asked for. Even if the victim wore a short skirt, drank too much, and even if she acted provocatively or seductively, she still retains the right to say no.

WHAT IS 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.

DEFINITIONS

- Sexual harassment is any form of 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 means any offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape.
- Rape is 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 is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification without consent of the victim.
- Incest is non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- Statutory rape is non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
- 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.

DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)

- Stalking is 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 and victimized. The 6 steps in the grooming process are: target the victim, gain the victim's trust, fill a need for the victim, isolate the victim, sexual exploitation and maintaining control.
- Quid pro quo is harassment that occurs when a school employee causes a student to believe that he or she must submit to unwelcome sexual conduct in order to participate in a school program or activity. It can also occur when an employee causes a student to believe that the employee will make an educational decision based on whether or not the student submits to unwelcome sexual conduct.
- Hostile environment is when harassment occurs when unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity, or creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment. A hostile environment can be created by a school employee, another student, or even someone visiting the school, such as a student or employee from another school.

DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)

- Domestic violence is 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 as a spouse.

HOW DO I REPORT TITLE IX VIOLATIONS?

Any student who believes that he/she or another student has experienced sexual discrimination, harassment, misconduct, or violence should immediately report the alleged acts to:

- any Blinn Employee or Resident Assistant (RA)
- any Blinn Campus Police
- any Blinn Counselor or Nurse (or staff) (CONFIDENTIAL)

Violations can also be reported to the:

Title IX Hotline at **979-830-4700** or
Title IX email at titleix@blinn.edu

All Employees/RAs who receive a report must disclose all information to the Title IX Coordinator/Specialist.

EXCEPTION - A person who holds a professional license requiring confidentiality, such as a counselor, or who is supervised by such a person shall not be required to disclose a report of prohibited conduct without the student's consent.

Complainants are strongly encouraged to report violations and have the right to report violations without further participation in any investigation.

Retaliation for reporting Title IX incidents is strictly prohibited.



TITLE IX PROCESS /PROCEDURE

- 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.



RIGHTS AND RESOURCES

Complainants and respondents are provided with a [Rights and Resources Letter](#) which explains the process and offers 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 Posters on Blinn Campuses

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

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- 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 community.



MENTAL HEALTH, COUNSELING, AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

WHAT IS MENTAL HEALTH?

- Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act.
- It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.
- Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.
- Counseling can help improve self-awareness, relationships, decision making, and your overall well-being.



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Positive mental health allows people to:

- realize their full potential;
- cope with the stresses of life;
- work productively;
- and make meaningful contributions to their communities.

Ways to maintain positive mental health include:

- getting professional help if you need it;
- connecting with others;
- staying positive;
- getting physically active;
- helping others;
- getting enough sleep;
- developing coping skills.





ELIGIBILITY OF SERVICES AND TYPES OF COUNSELING SERVICES

- Students currently enrolled at Blinn College are eligible for an initial intake appointment. Frequency of sessions and the approximate number of sessions or additional services will be made at that time based on the student's concern and the available resources of the department.
- Individual counseling consists of one-on-one sessions with a counselor.
- Individual counseling is short-term in nature, meaning that the focus will be on what clients want to achieve through therapy. If long-term or more intensive counseling is needed, the counselor will provide a referral list for appropriate professional or agencies in the area.

CONFIDENTIALITY

It is understood that all statements made to a counselor are confidential in nature, and may not be disclosed without prior consent by you. There are some exceptions and limitations to confidentiality as required by law:

- In cases of suspected abuse or neglect of children or adults not otherwise able to protect themselves.
- If records are court-ordered to be released or otherwise required by state or federal law.
- If you disclose misconduct by a previous therapist.
- We reserve the right to seek consultation from professional colleagues, which will aid us in our work with you. We will treat your information as confidential.
- If we believe you pose a threat to yourself or someone else, we may contact appropriate authorities to maintain your protection and protection of others.

BENEFITS OF COUNSELING

For counseling to be effective, it is necessary for you to take an active role in the process.

Personal commitment to your own growth and change is crucial to counseling success. You can enhance your development by:

- challenging your beliefs and disclosing information that may be difficult to discuss;
- developing goals during counseling to facilitate progress;
- learning to deal with everyday stressors;
- and increasing your self-awareness.



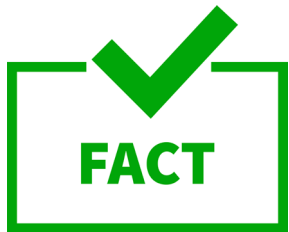
FACTS AND FIGURES FOR SUICIDE

- More than 38,000 people in the U.S. die by suicide every year
- Suicide is the 10th-leading cause of death
- A person dies by suicide every 13 minutes in the U.S.
- Men are 4 times more likely to die by suicide than women; women attempt suicide 3 times more often than men
- 3rd-leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds
- 4th-leading cause of death for 5-14 year olds
- Most people with mental illness do not die by suicide
- Nearly 1,000,000 people make a suicide attempt every year
- In 2011, there were 39,518 suicide deaths reported in the U.S. (CDC report)

SUICIDE MYTH #1



MYTH: Asking someone about suicide will plant the idea in their head.

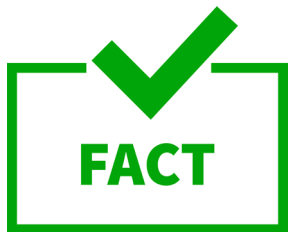


FACT: Asking is a straightforward way to show you care and it will not make someone suicidal.

SUICIDE MYTH #2



MYTH: A person who attempts suicide almost never showed warning signs.



FACT: Warning signs are typically present prior to suicide attempts.

WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE

- Talking about wanting to kill themselves
- Looking for a way to kill themselves
- Talking about a specific plan
- Feeling trapped or desperate
- Feeling hopeless or no reason to live
- Feeling humiliated
- Having the feeling of being a burden to others
- Losing interest in things
- Insomnia
- Having intense anxiety
- Acting irritable
- Becoming socially isolated or withdrawn
- Showing rage

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- 911 or the nearest emergency room
- 211 Texas United Way or 211us.org
- MHMR: 979-822-6467 or 1-888-522-8262 (24/7 helpline)
- Crisis Text Line: Text START to 741-741
- Suicide Hotline: 1-800-784-2433 (Suicide)
- National Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Ulifeline](#)

Anonymous, confidential, online resource center where college students can be comfortable searching for information they need and want regarding emotional health

[Jed Foundation](#)

Nation's leading organization working to promote emotional health and prevent suicide among college students

[Texas Suicide Prevention](#)

Effort of the state to connect community-based organizations, state agencies, and academic institutions to work together to reduce suicide in Texas

[American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#)

Understanding and preventing suicide through research, education, and advocacy

CONTACT INFORMATION

BRYAN COUNSELING OFFICE

- Phone: 979-209-7251
- Location: Science Bldg., Suite 167
- Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

BRENHAM COUNSELING OFFICE

- Phone: 979-830-4196
- Location: Administration Bldg., Suite 206
- Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT: Please call 911 or go to your local emergency room for life-threatening emergencies.

Blinn does not provide 24/7 emergency services. Call 911 or MHMR crisis helpline. Please visit our website for more information: www.blinn.edu/counseling-services

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION

- Blinn College is committed to the academic, mental, and physical health of its students and employees. While in college, students will be introduced to many exciting opportunities and some that could be detrimental to their future.
- More than 599,000 students are injured in some form every year while intoxicated on alcohol or drugs. Students and employees are encouraged to enjoy their time, but it is important that everyone remembers the dangers that come from using substances that impair their judgment.
- Blinn College is dedicated to providing a safe, healthy environment for students, employees, and visitors. This includes ensuring the college is a drug- and alcohol-free zone.



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 have read the information provided on Mental Health, Counseling, and Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention. 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.

Student Agreement Acknowledgement