

SEXUAL VIOLENCE WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

DEFINITION

Sexual violence may refer to:

- Sexual assault
- Sexual harassment
- Relationship violence
- Stalking
- Sexual exploitation

If you experience any form of sexual violence, there are a number of ways you can report the incident and a wide array of resources available to help you obtain information and ensure your physical and emotional health and safety.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER AN INCIDENT

GET TO A SAFE PLACE



Get to a safe place as soon as possible. Go to your room, a friend's room, or a public place on or off campus. If you are worried about your safety, contact WPI Police immediately. WPI Police officers can help get you to a safe place, transport you to a hospital for medical care, and connect you with a WPI counselor if you wish to speak with a confidential resource.

How to contact WPI Police

- Dial **5555** from an on-campus phone
- Dial **+1-508-831-5555** from a non-WPI phone
- Locate a WPI emergency phone (identified by a blue light) on campus

SPEAK WITH A CRISIS COUNSELOR



You can speak with WPI's counselor on call by contacting WPI Police. You can also call a number of free and confidential 24-hour hotlines in the community.

How to contact a crisis counselor

- Pathways for Change: **+1-800-870-5905**
- Daybreak: **+1-508-755-9030**
- RAINN: **+1-800-656-HOPE (4673)**

GET MEDICAL ATTENTION



Medical attention following a sexual assault can be helpful for many reasons: to treat any injuries or ensure that you are not injured, receive antibiotics to prevent sexually transmitted infections, obtain emergency contraception, or enable the collection of forensic evidence in the event that you later decide to take legal or criminal action against your assailant.

At our area hospitals, specially trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) are available to care for survivors and perform evidence collection for up to five days following a sexual assault. Evidence collection does not require police investigation or legal action. Call the Pathways for Change 24-hour hotline at **1-800-870-5909** to discuss medical options, request that an advocate accompany you at the hospital, or learn more about a SANE exam.



For more information about sexual violence, effective consent, and resources, visit wpi.edu/+save.



WPI

SEEKING ONGOING SUPPORT

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT & COUNSELING SERVICES



You are not alone. Experiencing sexual violence can be an enormous burden to bear, but there are a number of people who are available to support you. Consider speaking with a confidential resource at WPI or in the local community.

WPI's Student Development & Counseling Center (SDCC) can provide you with emotional support in the wake of trauma, including free and confidential therapy. The SDCC is located at 16 Einhorn Road and offers walk-in hours every weekday from 2 to 3pm. Contact the SDCC at **1-508-831-5540** or **sdcc@wpi.edu**.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES



The Dean of Students Office can assist you with a variety of measures, including a "no-contact order," academic support, and housing accommodations, whether or not a formal complaint is filed. Contact the office at **508-831-5201** or **dean-of-students@wpi.edu**.

WPI Police can also provide information and support if you are interested in filing for a court-issued protective order. Once issued, WPI will work with you to make necessary accommodations.

REPORTING OPTIONS

UNIVERSITY COMPLAINT



If the alleged perpetrator is affiliated with WPI, you may file a complaint with the university by contacting the **Dean of Students Office** or **Title IX Coordinator**, Melissa Pierce (**1-508-831-6514** or **mapierce@wpi.edu**). University complaints are governed by the WPI Campus Code of Conduct. The standard of proof is "preponderance of the evidence," meaning more likely than not, and WPI judicial sanctions may include suspension or expulsion.

For more information, you may contact one of WPI's Sexual Violence Judicial Advocates, staff members trained to work with students navigating WPI's judicial process. Advocates are not confidential but can provide support without having to report any personally identifying information about an incident to the university.

Jennifer Cluett: **508-831-5286**, **jcluett@wpi.edu**

Colleen Callahan-Panday: **508-831-6030**, **ccallahan@wpi.edu**

David Ortendahl: **508-831-5260**, **dortendahl@wpi.edu**

You may pursue one, both, or none of the options here. You are not required to file a report immediately, but you are encouraged to preserve any evidence of the incident.

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT



If you choose to file a criminal complaint, WPI Police will provide you with support throughout the process. A criminal complaint is governed by applicable criminal statutes, and the standard of proof is "beyond a reasonable doubt." Potential sanctions include all applicable criminal sanctions, up to and including incarceration.

WPI'S RESPONSE

WPI is committed to student safety and is required by federal law to investigate all allegations of sexual misconduct and take any remedial action deemed necessary to preserve your safety and that of the community, whether or not you wish to make a formal complaint. However, in planning any response, the wishes of the reporting student are given full consideration. **Confidential resources at WPI include the SDCC, Health Services, and Collegiate Religious Center chaplains. All other WPI faculty and staff are required to report information about incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator.**