

Sexual Misconduct

For the definition and indicators of sexual misconduct, see [Student Code of Conduct](#). There is no right or wrong way to respond to an act of sexual misconduct; it is most important to respond in a way that is right for you. If you have experienced sexual misconduct, you have a number of options, including:

Getting to a safe place

After experiencing a traumatizing event such as sexual violence, it is important to find a place where you feel comfortable and secure from harm.

Contacting law enforcement

You may contact law enforcement to assist you in obtaining medical treatment and police services by calling:

- 911
- Hocking College Campus Safety (740) 753-6598 - Located on Nelsonville Campus next to Hocking Heights residence hall.
- Nelsonville Police Department (740) 753-1922 (non-emergency number)
- Athens Police Department (740) 593-6606 (non-emergency number)
- The appropriate law enforcement agency

The Title IX Coordinator can assist you in notifying law enforcement, if you so choose.

You are not required to contact law enforcement. However, if you do, it does **not** mean that you must participate in a criminal investigation. If you contact Hocking College Campus Safety, they will walk you through the process of filing a report. If you do not want your name on the report, the police will complete the report using the name Jane or John Doe in place of your name.

If the incident occurred off College property, Nelsonville Police or Athens Police will direct you to the appropriate law enforcement agency for assistance. If the incident occurred on College property, the Hocking College Campus Safety will investigate. The appropriate law enforcement agency, depending on where the incident occurred, will work directly with you and provide options to pursue criminal charges.

You have the option to inquire about a [protection order](#) or other legal orders of protection. The College police or local police can provide information about getting a protection order. If you obtain a protection order, it is your responsibility to notify the Hocking College Campus Safety and the Title IX Coordinator. **Please note that without this notification, the College will have no knowledge of the protection order.**

Information about Athens County protection orders is available here:

<http://www.ci.athens.oh.us/407/Crime-Victim-Assistance>

Seeking medical attention

For **physical acts of sexual misconduct**, like rape or dating/domestic or intimate partner violence, go to the nearest emergency room as soon as possible and within 96 hours of the incident.

At the hospital, you may decide whether or not to receive a medical exam. A medical exam treats the full extent of any injury or physical trauma. In the case of sexual assault, the exam includes:

- considering the possibilities of sexually transmitted disease or pregnancy, and
- properly preserving evidence in case you decide to pursue a criminal investigation

You can decide to have a medical exam but decide not to have the evidence collected. If you decide to have evidence collected, you can choose not to pursue criminal charges and/or not to partake in a police report. The medical exam will help keep the option to pursue criminal charges open, should you decide to do so later.

Medical providers at hospitals must call police when a suspected sexual assault or felony level physical assault takes place. You still can choose not to talk to the police and/or not to pursue criminal charges. You also can choose to remain anonymous on the police report.

If you have not changed clothes, bring a change of clothes with you to the hospital, if possible, as they will likely keep the clothes you are wearing as evidence.

You can take a support person with you to the hospital, and they can accompany you through the exam. There also may be an advocate available at the hospital.

Preserving all physical evidence

Keep evidence such as text messages, social media posts, voicemails, notes and pictures that are related to the incident in case you decide to pursue an administrative investigation with the College and/or a criminal investigation with the police and/or obtain a protection order.

If you have been sexually assaulted, save all clothing from the time of the attack in a paper bag rather than a plastic bag, as plastic degrades evidence. Do not bathe, douche, brush your teeth or drink, as you may be destroying evidence you will need if you decide to pursue a criminal investigation now or in the future.

Do not disturb the crime scene—leave all sheets, towels, etc. that may bear evidence for the police to collect.

Contacting the Hocking College Title IX Coordinator and/or Lead Title IX Investigator

These individuals will explain your options, including reporting procedures, interim measures and accommodations. Please see the [Accommodations and Interim Measures](#) webpage for more information.

Title IX Coordinator

Jacqueline C. Hagerott, Esq., LL.M., CCM
[\(740\) 753-7006](tel:(740)753-7006)

Available during regular office hours

Lead Title IX Investigator

Erin Bowald
[\(740\) 753-7103](tel:(740)753-7103)

Secure Reporting

The College uses a secure reporting format to address the situation in a prompt and efficient manner. The online report form is sent directly to the Title IX Coordinator. This is the College's preferred method of reporting.

Please be aware, if you choose to report anonymously, it will limit the College's ability to resolve the matter. Employees are not permitted to submit anonymous reports of sexual misconduct unless the incident was targeted at them.

IMPORTANT: Your report will be reviewed during business hours. If you have an emergency, please call 911 or Hocking College Campus Safety (740) 753-6598.

Complaints also can be filed with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) in the U.S. Department of Education, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

Click on the link below to submit information about the incident and someone will contact you within two (2) business days.

[Submit a Student Incident Report](#)

Contacting relatives or close friends for support

Only contact relatives or friends if you believe they will be supportive.

Contacting a trained, experienced counselor

- Current students may contact Hocking College Counseling Services at (740) 753-7006 and receive services free of charge
- Full-time Hocking College employees may contact Help Net at (800) 969-6162 or www.helpnetcap.com

See the [Confidential Resources](#) tab for more options.

Privacy Information

The College will seek to maintain your privacy at all times during the process. There may be exceptional situations which present a potential danger to the College community and prevent the College from protecting all identifying details. Hocking College values your privacy, and in these situations, reports of sexual misconduct will be shared only with individuals who need-to-know or as required by law.

All College employees who become aware of an incident of sexual misconduct must notify the Title IX Coordinator, or Hocking College Campus Safety. The Title IX Coordinator will advise you about which details you need to disclose depending on the severity of the incident and your role with the College. The Title IX Coordinator is specifically charged with investigating and responding to allegations of sexual misconduct.