### UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY



## Resource Guide for Support and Reporting Prohibited Conduct under Civil Rights/Title IX\*

\* Prohibited Conduct refers to discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct.

July 2025

## University of Findlay's Office for Civil Rights team is here for you.

The University of Findlay's Civil Rights team is made up of one coordinator, two deputies, eight investigators, and an entire education and prevention committee. All of these individuals are committed to creating a safe environment for everyone.

All team members are highly trained and are committed to eliminating, preventing, and addressing all instances of prohibited conduct under the UF's Non-Discrimination Policy and Title IX Policy.

We are committed to **responding** to incidents, **supporting** individuals who have been harmed, and **educating** our campus community. Our goal is to support a campus culture that celebrates healthy relationships and mutual respect.

## What is Title IX?

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct.

For more information about Civil Rights at UF, visit www.findlay.edu/offices/student-affairs/civil-rights/ or scan the code:



## Office for Civil Rights: Here's What We Do

**Policy:** UF has comprehensive Civil Rights & Title IX policies which are reviewed regularly. To read policies administered by the Office for Civil Rights, visit:

https://www.findlay.edu/offices/student-affairs/civil-rights/.

**Prevention & Education:** UF has a team of faculty, staff, students, and community partners who develop and present diverse programming which covers topics like healthy relationships, sexual violence prevention, and creating a community culture based on mutual respect.

**Response & Adjudication:** Our response team assists in determining if and how students prefer to proceed. Individuals may choose whether to make a report to the University, to law enforcement, both, or neither.

**Support:** UF works with those impacted by prohibited conduct to connect them with the support and resources they wish to utilize. This includes both on-campus and off-campus resources for survivors, friends, and anyone else who is impacted by sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other forms of sexual misconduct.

## Let Us Introduce Ourselves

Our Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator is Skylar Tiell.

As Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator, Skylar is a resource for all individuals who wish to learn more about UF policies, available support, or report options. He receives all sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and other forms of sexual misconduct reports and works with individuals making the report to determine possible next steps. The Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator works alongside Abby Blinka, Deputy Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for Investigation, and Sarah Woods, Deputy Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for Prevention.

Prevention and education efforts are coordinated by Sarah Woods, Deputy Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for Prevention, alongside:

- Prevention Education Team
- Athletics
- OC3 Student Organization
- Campus Partners

Investigation and response efforts are coordinated by Abby Blinka, Deputy Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for Investigation, alongside:

- Civil Rights Investigation Team
- Open Arms Mobile Advocates

## **Resources Available to You**

### Talk to a Confidential Resource

### **On-Campus Resources**

**Counseling Services** provides professional, confidential counseling, advocacy, guidance, and assistance in understanding options, rights, and outcomes with regard to both the University and criminal processes.

**Cosiano Health Center** provides medical assistance, including sexual assault response assistance, to students.

**Campus Ministries** provides confidential consultation with clergy.

### **Off-Campus Resources**

#### Blanchard Valley Hospital

Offers on-site Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner services through the Emergency Department.

#### Open Arms Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Services 24-Hour Hotline

419-422-4766, can assist with emergency shelter, rape crisis, victim advocacy, and obtaining a Civil Protection Order.

### Talk to the Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator

In addition to providing information about this policy, the Civil Rights/ Title IX Coordinator can provide information on existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid issues, and other services available for individuals as appropriate both on and off campus, regardless of where the prohibited conduct occurred.

The Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator can also assist with supportive measures which may be needed.

If you meet with the Civil Rights/ Title IX Coordinator, you can do any or all of the following:

- Get information about the Title IX policy and process
- Make a report and request supportive measures only
- File a formal complaint and initiate the grievance process

### Talk to Campus Safety

**Campus Safety** is available 24/7 and you can contact them for immediate assistance to provide transport or help in obtaining emergency medical assistance.

They can connect you with the Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for support services, or to make a campus report. They can also connect you with the **Findlay Police Department, Hancock County Sheriff, and UFPD** based on jurisdiction to make a criminal report.

# Talk to a trusted friend or mentor

Often a friend or mentor is who we first turn to for support, and they can be an important resource.

Please know that if you decide to talk with a UF faculty or staff member, they are required to share information with the Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator, who will follow up with you to offer resources and support.

If the Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator follows up with you, it is your choice to respond or not respond.

## For immediate assistance

In case of emergency: 911 UF Campus Safety, open 24/7, 419-434-4799 City of Findlay Police Department, 419-424-7150 Hancock County Sheriff, 419-424-7097

## **Quick Definitions**

## Consent

Consent is a knowing, voluntary, and affirmatively communicated willingness to participate in a particular sexual activity or behavior. It must be given by a person who has the ability and capacity to exercise free will and make a rational, reasonable judgment. It is the responsibility of the person who initiates the sexual activity to ensure that consent is obtained from the other person or persons involved in the sexual activity before the activity occurs.

## **Retaliation**

Retaliation is defined as intimidating, threatening, coercing, or discriminating against any individual:

- For the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX regulations.
- Because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this Policy or under the complaint procedures relating to Title IX complaints with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

## Complainant

Individual alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute a violation of Title IX policy, Non-Discrimination policy, or Minors on Campus policy.

## **Advisor of Choice**

Respondant

Individual alleged to have violated the prohibitions outlined in the Title IX policy, Non-Discrimination policy, or Minors on Campus policy.

## **Policy Index**

## Consent

Title IX Policy, Section 4A

#### Sex/Gender Discrimination Title IX Policy, Section 3A

### **Sex/Gender Harassment**

Title IX Policy, Section 3B

Quid Pro Quo Title IX Policy, Section 3C1 **Dating Violence** Title IX Policy, Section 3C4

Unwelcome Conduct Title IX Policy, Section 3C2 **Domestic Violence** Title IX Policy, Section 3C5

Sexual Assault Title IX Policy, Section 3C3

**Stalking** Title IX Policy, Section 3C6

**Discrimination** Non-Discrimination Policy, Section 5A

**Discriminatory Harassment** 

Non-Discrimination Policy, Section 5B

## **Racial and Ethnic Intimidation – Non-Title IX**

Non-Discrimination Policy, Section 5C

Retaliation Non-Discrimination Policy, Section 5D

Supportive Measures Title IX Policy, Section 6 | Non-Discrimination Policy, Section 9

Grievance Procedures Title IX Policy, Section 7 | Non-Discrimination Policy, Section 10

Each party has the right to bring an advisor of their choosing to any meetings or discussions relating to the formal resolution process, as outlined in the Title IX policy and Non-Discrimination policy. The advisor may advise the party directly and provide support to the party, but may not speak for the party or disrupt the meetings or proceedings.

## **Pregnancy & Parenting**

Title IX prohibits discrimination based on "actual or potential" parental, family, or marital status or "pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom."

### What does this mean?

#### **Equal Access Guaranteed:**

• Schools must provide equal access to all school programs and extracurricular activities for individuals who are, have been, or might be pregnant (whether currently parenting or not).

#### Fair Treatment:

• Pregnant and parenting individuals should be treated the same way as other individuals who are similarly able or unable to participate in school activities.

#### **Protection Against Harassment:**

• Title IX requires schools to prevent and address sex-based harassment, which includes harassment based on pregnancy.

#### Access to Support:

- Depending on your situation, you may be entitled to reasonable modifications under Title IX. The Office for Civil Rights can work to identify appropriate modifications on a case-by-case basis.
- Reasonable modifications may include but are not limited to a larger desk, seating next to an exit, elevator access, incompletes, alternate assignments, flexible attendance, lactation space, or temporary parking changes.

#### **Lactation Spaces**

The University offers three private lactation spaces for individuals (students and employees) who are nursing, chest feeding or expressing breast milk. The current lactation spaces available include:

#### The OC3 House (212 Howard St) | Old Main #306 | Brewer Center #222

For information regarding access to these spaces, please contact the Office for Civil Rights (civilrights@findlay.edu or 419-434-4739).

## **Open Arms Mobile Advocacy**

As part of an ongoing commitment to providing comprehensive support services, University of Findlay has expanded its partnership with Open Arms Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services. The partnership aims to provide valuable assistance and support to members of the UF campus community.

Open Arms provides mobile advocacy services throughout Hancock County for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Advocates will meet survivors where they are and connect them with resources, help, and safety. Services offered by Open Arms include safety planning, resources and referrals, medical and legal advocacy and accompaniment, and assistance in accessing emergency shelters.

UF campus community members who would like to talk with a mobile advocate can meet with them in Old Main 24.

Mobile advocates will be on campus Tuesday's & Wednesday's: 2 - 4 p.m. (with the exception of official University breaks and final exams).

Individuals wishing to talk with a mobile advocate are encouraged to reach out to the Office for Civil Rights (419-434-4739) or Open Arms hotline (419-422-4766).

## Your Rights Under Civil Rights and Title IX

- You have the right to live and learn at UF free from discrimination.
- You have the right to file a complaint according to UF's Non-Discrimination Policy or University of Findlay's Title IX Policy.
- You have the right to make a police report and request a criminal investigation with law enforcement.
- You have the right to supportive measures to help you live and learn at UF, such as housing or academic accommodations.
- You have the right to request a no-contact order from UF or to pursue a Civil Protection Order from the courts.
- You have the right to utilize the services, support and processes at UF without fear of retaliation.
- You have the right to access on-campus and off-campus support services.
- You have these rights regardless of your race, color, ethnicity; national origin; age; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity or expression; physical or mental disability; religion; or any other protected class.

## **Additional Resources**

#### **National Resources:**

The National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233 National Sexual Assault Telephone Hotline: 800-656-4673 One Love: Live Chat: loveisrespect.org / Text: "loveis: to 22522 Trevor Project Crisis Text: Text START to 678-678 Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741-741 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Call or Text 988 suicidepreventionlifeline.org

#### **Pregnant and Parenting Students:**

The Pregnant Scholar: thepregnantscholar.org

OCR Know Your Rights: www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/dcl-know-rights-201306-title-ix.html

US Department of Education: www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf

National Woman's Law Center: 202-588-5180 https://nwlc.org/resource/pregnant-and-parenting-students-rights-2/

#### LGBTQ+ Resources:

**UNITED:** unitedlgbtcenter@findlay.edu

UF LGBT Resource Center: unitedlgbtcenter@findlay.edu

The Trevor Project: 1-866-488-7396 | thetrevorproject.org

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization: 614-294-7867 or 1-866-862-7286 bravo-ohio.org

LGBT National Help Center: 1-888-843-4564 | glbthotline.org

Trans Lifeline: 1-877-565-8860 | translifeline.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255 suicidepreventionlifeline.org



## University of Findlay Sollers Changing Campus Culture

### Office for Civil Rights Old Main 45 | 419-434-4739 | civilrights@findlay.edu

### **Office for Civil Rights Staff**

Skylar Tiell, Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator 419-434-4739 | metterts@findlay.edu

Abby Blinka, Deputy Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for Investigation 419-434-4739 | abigail.blinka@findlay.edu

Sarah Woods, Deputy Civil Rights/Title IX Coordinator for Prevention 419-434-4739 | sarah.woods@findlay.edu

### **Confidential Resources**

Counseling Services, 307 Frazer St. | 419-434-4526 Cosiano Health Center, 120 W. Foulke Ave. | 419-434-4550 Campus Ministry Counseling, 1049 N. Main St. | 419-434-5624 Open Arms Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Services 24 Hour Hotline 419-422-4766 | www.openarmsfindlay.com

### **Prevention and Education**

Jodi Firsdon, Director of Counseling Services 419-434-6914 | firsdon@findlay.edu

Lauren Sinchok, Open Arms | 419-420-9261

Dr. Megan Gonyer, College of Health Professions gonyer@findlay.edu | 419-434-4714

Dr. Kim Lichtveld, lichtveld@findlay.edu | 419-434-5945

### **Safety Resources**

In case of emergency: 911 UF Campus Safety, open 24/7 | 419-434-4799 City of Findlay Police Department | 419-424-7150 Hancock County Sheriff | 419-424-7097