

## University Resources

### Equity and Inclusion | Title IX

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Student Services Annex  
919 Bearkat Blvd. / Box 2302  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
936.294.3080

### University Police Department

911 (Emergency)  
936.294.1794 (Non-Emergency)

### SHSU Counseling Center

1608 Ave. J  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
936.294.1720

### SHSU Health Center

1608 Ave. J  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
936.294.1805

### Dean of Students

1802 Ave. I Suite 215  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
936.294.1785

### Student Legal Services

1802 Ave. I, Suite 330  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
936.294.1717

### Residence Life

910 Bearkat Blvd.  
Huntsville, TX 77340  
936.294.1920



Office of Equity and Inclusion | Title IX

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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# TITLE IX PARENT INFORMATION

Providing Gender Equity and  
Preventing Sexual Harassment/  
Sexual Violence

# WHAT IS TITLE IX?

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that (1) protects people from discrimination based on sex regardless of gender identity or orientation in educational programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance, and (2) covers sexual harassment/sexual assault as forms of sex and gender discrimination.

## What is Sexual Harassment?

Sexual Harassment is **any unwelcome verbal, nonverbal, written, electronic or physical behavior of a sexual nature directed at someone, or against a particular group**, because of that person's or group's sex, or based on gender stereotypes, severe or pervasive.

## What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual Assault means any form of **non-consensual sexual activity** representing a continuum of conduct from forcible rape to non-physical forms of pressure designed to compel individuals to engage in sexual activity against their will (Texas Penal Code Section 22.011).

## Reporting Sexual Misconduct

All allegations of discrimination, harassment or retaliation based on sex, gender or sexual orientation, made against students, faculty, staff, applicants or third parties associated with the campus, should be reported.

# TITLE IX

## Sexual Harassment and Assault:

### What you can do to help:

If your child or someone you know lets you know they have been sexually harassed or assaulted, your first primary concern is their well-being.

Encourage them to seek medical attention. If they choose not to report the crime, you can be there for them by:

- Listening and being supportive and non-judgmental.
- Do not ask why questions or blame the individual for what happened.
- Allow them to freely talk about the incident.
- Allow them to make their own decisions regarding talking about or reporting the incident.

Whether or not they choose to report the incident, contacting someone who specializes in working with victims of sexual violence is key in the recovery process.

## Understanding Campus Violence

Communities, colleges, and universities nationwide are affected by sexual assault. All too frequently, sexual assault happens on college campuses destroying lives and stripping individuals of their sense of trust, safety, and security.

In general, sexual violence occurs between individuals who know each other rather than between strangers. Whether an acquaintance or stranger, all forms of sexual violence crimes are against the law.

For more information about student rights and sexual misconduct, visit the SHSU Title IX webpage: [shsu.edu/titleix](http://shsu.edu/titleix)

## Negotiating Consent

### What is Consent?

Consent is sexual permission. Consent to one form of sexual activity cannot be automatically taken as consent to any other form of sexual activity. Silence—without actions demonstrating permission—cannot be assumed to show consent.

Students Have The Right To:

- Feel safe.
- Say “NO” and not feel pressured to engage in sexual activity.
- A relationship with someone who respects your emotional and physical wishes and boundaries.
- Be assertive and direct with someone who is sexually pressuring you.
- Change your mind, and if you are not sure what you want, to STOP and think about it.
- Be in a relationship free of violence and abuse.
- Make a confidential police report, by requesting that you remain anonymous for the public criminal record.

### Consent Is:

*Mutual:* It is active, not passive, and can be withdrawn at any time. Silence does not necessarily constitute consent. It is the responsibility of the initiator to obtain consent.

*Freely Given:* If coercion, intimidation, or threats of physical force are used, there is no consent. There is no consent when there is force, expressed or implied, or use of duress or deception upon the victim.

*Informed:* If a person is impaired due to alcohol, drugs, being asleep, unconscious, mentally impaired, or below the age of legal consent, there can be no consent.