

# CAL POLY

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Student Affairs

*Safer*

## Resources for Victim/Survivors

### **Safer**

Contact Info: [safer@calpoly.edu](mailto:safer@calpoly.edu), 805-756-2282

Physical Location: University Union, Building 65, Room 217

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9am - 5pm

## Immediate Concerns

**Medical attention:** Even if you do not think you were injured, it is important to make sure you are healthy following an assault. If you are worried about STDs, pregnancy, drug tests or any injuries, you can seek medical attention. If you choose to do so and tell any staff of the medical facility that you have been assaulted, **law enforcement will be notified**. You can seek medical attention without a report if you do not say it is due to an assault.

**Crisis counseling:** At Safer and RISE, you can get an immediate confidential meeting with a state certified advocate who can provide support and resources. They will be able to walk you through processes like reporting, support, restraining orders and questions.

**There are two options if within up to 5 days of a sexual assault:**

- **Sexual Assault Response Team (SART):** The purpose of a SART is to check you medically for any injuries, STDs and provide Plan B/other precautionary measures and to gather evidence for a criminal case. This is an important option if a victim/survivor wants to report to the police, as DNA evidence is the strongest.
  - The first part is an oral history of everything that happened with the SART nurse and law enforcement present. The victim/survivor will have to explain in detail everything that happened including answering extremely difficult and graphic questions.
  - The second part is the forensic exam with the SART nurse. Much like a pelvic exam, a SART includes taking swabs of very intimate parts of the body. The victim/survivor is allowed to have support with them through the process whether that be family, friend, advocate or any combination if they wish.
  - The nurse then notes everything and sends the kit to be tested to match any DNA found from the SART. **This involves law enforcement, which means a report is made about the assault and an investigation will take place at the criminal level if the victim/survivor chooses to move forward.**
- **Restricted SART:** The same procedure as above, except law enforcement is not present. The kit will be held and available for testing for a few years following the exam, but will not be held indefinitely. This means it is an option to make a report later with the findings from the exam. **Law enforcement will only be notified that an exam took place, but they will not know the identity of the victim/survivor or details of the assault.**

We recommend meeting with an advocate from Safer to set up and explain the exam, however after hours you can set up the exam by contacting RISE at 855-866-7473.

# Types of Support Available

## Physical and Safety Support

- If you feel that you are in immediate danger, call 911 immediately. Safer can work with you to develop a safety plan if you feel you may be unsafe.
- On campus:
  - No contact order: This means that the university will set up the order so that the parties you wish to not have contact you cannot do so (whether it be in person, online, via a third party or any other type of communication).
  - Changes in housing: If you wish to change your current residence hall, Safer can work with housing to have you moved to a new residence hall.
- If the parties you wish to have not contact you are not employed by or attend school at Cal Poly, RISE can help you request a restraining order.

## Emotional/Psychological Support

- Confidential long-term counseling can help you to work with a professional through the aftermath of an assault. RISE and the counseling center are available to work with victim/survivors for a few weeks, but you will generally want to go to a private practice for long-term counseling. Safer and the counseling center can offer referrals.

## Academic Support

- Safer and the Title IX office can contact your professors directly about missing class, upcoming tests or assignments, allow you to take tests in alternate locations and work on other accommodations if you are feeling overwhelmed.
- If you feel like you cannot continue going to your classes, we can also work to accommodate a schedule change or help you withdraw from courses under certain circumstances.
- If you are in a class with the perpetrator(s) or have classes near them, they can be removed from the class.

## Options for Reporting

### TITLE IX – University investigation

- **Title IX Contacts:**
  - Brian Gndt, Title IX Coordinator: bgnandt@calpoly.edu or 805-756-6770
  - Tera Bisbee, Interim Deputy Title IX Coordinator tbisbee@calpoly.edu or 805-756-5237
  - Building 33 – 290 (Fisher Science)
- **How to report:**
  - Call or email Title IX Coordinator directly and say you would like to make a report
  - Meet with an Advocate from Safer who will coordinate the meeting and support you through the entire process
    - **Both parties are entitled to one advisor/advocate.** That can be at all meetings to explain the process, provide support and advocate for the survivor/respondent in whatever way they would like.
- **What happens once you report:**
  - Title IX Coordinator will obtain the particulars (chronology of who, what, when, where, why and how to the best of the victim/survivors recollection). The victim/survivor will have to talk about the details of the assault.
  - An investigation will be opened and a Title IX investigator will gather information and interview any witnesses about what happened.
  - Investigations are typically concluded in 60 – 90 working days. The Title IX investigator can make a recommendation of the finding but the Title IX Coordinator or designee makes the final determination.
  - The burden of proof is a preponderance of the evidence standard; meaning it is more likely than not (so, at least 50.1.% of the evidence supports that that the university's sexual misconduct policy was violated, as alleged.
  - If the accused is found in violation, the outcomes can range from suspension to expulsion.
  - The Title IX Coordinator and the investigators are, by law, required to be neutral and independent fact finders. They don't represent you and they don't represent the accused; his or her job is to get to the truth of what happened and determine if the evidence is sufficient to establish a violation.
  - Accommodations offered to victim/survivors:
    - No contact orders
    - Academic accommodations
    - Housing changes
    - Counseling
    - Safety measures
    - Other

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT - Criminal investigation**

- **Law Enforcement Contacts:**
  - UPD: 805-756-2281 – Building 36
  - SLOPD: 805-781-7317 - 1042 Walnut Street, San Luis Obispo
- **How to report:**
  - Call the above numbers and ask to make an appointment; if it is an immediate report after the assault call 911.
  - Meet with an advocate at Safer who will set up all the appointments and act as an advocate throughout the reporting process.
  - ALL victim/survivors are entitled to an advocate at all meetings to explain the process, provide support and advocate for the victim/survivor in whatever way they would like. In addition to offering an advocate, law enforcement must also offer a counselor be present during the interview and the right to confidentiality (California Penal Code 293).
- **What happens after you report:**
  - An investigation will be opened and the police will gather information about what happened so long as the victim/survivor wants to move forward.
  - Interviews will take place and the victim/survivor will need to give them the details of what happened. Victim/survivors are encouraged to be as detailed as possible – increases likelihood of prosecution.
  - The length of investigations vary. Law enforcement will hand over the evidence they gather to the District Attorney's office who will then decide if there is enough evidence for the case to go to trial.
  - The burden of proof is much higher for criminal investigations: 100% or unanimous: "Beyond a reasonable doubt"

### **Preserving evidence for investigations:**

- Try to preserve all evidence of the assault. Avoid drinking, bathing, showering, douching, brushing your teeth, or changing your clothes.
- Try to write down, or have a friend write down, everything you can remember about the incident including a physical description of the perpetrator, their identity if you know it, and the use of threats, force or coercion.
- If you think you were drugged, ask a medical provider to take a urine sample or blood test. Date rape drugs like GHB and Rohypnol are more likely to be detected in urine than in blood.

# Resources

## CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES

- **Safer**
  - Cal Poly's confidential resource for stalking, dating violence, domestic violence and sexual assault.
  - **Services:** support, crisis counseling by appointment and walk-ins, support for loved ones of victim/survivors, advocacy, information on reporting at criminal and university level, support and information on accommodations
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: UU 217
    - Number: 805-756-2282
    - E-mail: safer@calpoly.edu
  - **Website:** safer.calpoly.edu
  
- **Counseling Center**
  - **Services:** Longer term counseling with psychologists, referrals to other professionals outside of Cal Poly, can usually get student in within a week; help through trauma and aftermath of an assault
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: Building 27 (Health Center)
    - Number: 805-756-2511
  
- **RISE**
  - A San Luis Obispo County resource for sexual assault and intimate partner violence.
  - **Services:** 24 hour crisis line, walk in crisis counseling, longer term counseling, advocacy, accompaniments, restraining orders, shelter
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: SLO – 51 Zaca Lane Suite 100; Paso Robles – 1030 Vine St.
    - Number: 805-226-5400 (Office hours) or 855-886-7473 (after hours)
  - **Website:** www.riseslo.org
  
- **Women's Shelter Program**
  - The Women's Shelter Program is committed to recognizing and responding to our community's need for comprehensive multicultural domestic violence and child abuse services.
  - **Services:** 24 hour crisis line, emergency shelter, counseling, legal assistance, support services
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: 51 Zaca Lane Suite 150, San Luis Obispo
    - Number: 805-781-6400

## NON-CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES

**\*A victim/survivor can choose to not disclose that they were assaulted if they wish to seek services from this resource without a report being made.**

- **Health Center – MANDATED REPORTER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**
  - **Services:** Medical check-ups to scan for injuries or STD testing (may have to wait a few weeks for testing depending on exact test and there may be fees depending on the test)
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: Building 27
    - Number: 805-756-1211
  
- **The Center – MANDATED REPORTER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**
  - **Services:** STD/STI screening and treatment, pregnancy tests, Plan B, condoms and more.
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: 705 Grand Ave, San Luis Obispo
    - Number: 805-544-2478
  
- **Planned Parenthood San Luis Obispo – MANDATED REPORTER TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**
  - Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to millions of women, men, and young people
  - **Services:** STD/STI/HIV screening and treatment, birth control, Plan B, abortions, LGBT services and more.
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: 743 Pismo Street, San Luis Obispo
    - Number: 805-549-0749
  
- **PULSE – MANDATED REPORTER TO UNIVERSITY**
  - Peer counseling on sexual health information like STDs and pregnancy
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: Building 27; lower level of Health Center
    - Email: pulse@calpoly.edu
    - Number: 805-756-6181
  
- **Pride Center – MANDATED REPORTER TO UNIVERSITY**
  - The Pride Center supports and advocates for the unique academic and social needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\*, queer or questioning, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA) students to promote personal growth and success.
  - **Contact:**
    - Location: UU 209
    - Email: pride@calpoly.edu
    - Number: 805-756-7733
  
- **MultiCultural Center – MANDATED REPORTER TO UNIVERSITY**

- The MultiCultural Center (MCC) supports and advocates for under-represented students by honoring cultural expression, building community, and creating cross-cultural connections.
- **Contact:**
  - Location: UU 217
  - Email: [mcc@calpoly.edu](mailto:mcc@calpoly.edu)
  - Number: 805-756-1405
- **Gender Equity Center – MANDATED REPORTER TO UNIVERSITY**
  - The Gender Equity Center (GEC) supports and empowers all women identifying students by creating a strong community, educating about feminist, womanist, and mujerista based movements, exploring identities through an intersectional lens, and striving for social justice.
  - Contact:
    - Location: UU 217
    - Email: [genderequitycenter@calpoly.edu](mailto:genderequitycenter@calpoly.edu)
    - Number: 805-756-2600

**Anyone employed by the university (including staff, faculty, students employed by the university in any capacity, etc) is a mandated reporter.**

**Confidential:** This resource cannot share any information that they are told with anyone; all information will be kept confidential unless the victim/survivor asks them to speak to someone on their behalf. Safer and RISE are mandated to report child abuse, which includes sexual relations (consensual or not) with anyone 17 or under. Age does not have to be mentioned in a session.

**Mandated reporter to law enforcement:** ALL medical providers are mandated reporters to police. This means that all information disclosed to the medical provider (even just staff at a medical center) will be told to police. The victim/survivor can choose to not speak with police if a report is made. **A victim/survivor can still seek certain services from a medical facility without law enforcement being notified if they do not disclose they have been assaulted.**

**Mandated reporter to university:** ALL university employees (with the exception of Safer and the counseling center) must tell their supervisor if they are made aware of an assault. The Dean of Students office will be notified and the victim/survivor will receive an email from our Title IX Coordinator Brian Gnant. The email will contain a list of resources is sent to the victim/survivor about courses of action they can take if they choose to move forward with a report or if they need support. Title IX can move forward with an investigation regardless of if a victim/survivor reports or wants to move forward depending on the severity of the allegation.