

Reporting Options

Police: Consider reporting the incident to the police, who can inform you of the law/criminal aspects involved in your situation, obtaining no-contact/protective orders and help you through the process of pressing charges, if you choose to do so.

Title IX: You can make a report to the Title IX coordinator on campus, 475-5428. TITLE IX protects all students from sex/gender-based discrimination and sexual violence regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, immigration status or disability status.

Campus Discipline System: You may choose to pursue action through the campus judicial system if the offense was committed by another student. University Services is available to advise victims of their rights under the Code of Student Conduct, 475-5706.

University Services: Can assist students who are in need of class schedule and housing reassignments in order to maintain safety parameters, 475-5706.

Health Services: Incidences reported to Health Services staff will be reported anonymously, and with limited information (on or off campus, etc.) only.

Counseling Center: Incidents reported to the McNeese Counseling Center on campus will remain completely confidential. Mental health counselors on campus are considered exempt under CLERY standards.

Local Hospital: Lake Charles Memorial Hospital has trained SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) nurses who can collect evidence (“rape kit”), evaluate for risk of STIs, conduct pregnancy tests and can talk with you about reporting options if you choose to pursue criminal charges. Recent legislation passed in 2014 states that rape victims will not be billed for charges incurred during a forensic medical exam, 494-3036.

Important Note: If an incident of sexual assault, relationship violence or stalking is reported to someone on campus who is considered a CSA (Campus Security Authority), then that person is required to report the incident to University Police under CLERY standards, whether or not you ask them to. For more information: www.mcneese.edu/police/campus_security_authority_csa

Under the CLERY Act the University is required to statistically report all allegations of sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking offenses involving students, staff, faculty and/or visitors even if only campus judicial sanctions result and no criminal charges are filed.

*All area codes are 337 unless otherwise noted

ON CAMPUS:

University Police: 475-5711

Counseling Center: 475-5136

Health Services: 475-5748

University Services & Campus Life: 475-5706

Title IX Coordinator: 475-5428

OFF CAMPUS:

Lake Charles Memorial Hospital ER: 494-3036

Lake Charles Police: 491-1456

Sheriff's Office: 491-3751 or 911

Oasis - A Haven for Women and Children: 494-7273

Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence

888-411-1333

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation

(free legal assistance, Lake Charles)

439-0377 or 877-256-0639

NATIONAL RESOURCE:

National Sexual Assault Hotline:

800-656-4673

Rape Abuse & Incest National Network

www.rainn.org

Learn more about Title IX, CLERY and Campus SaVE

by visiting the following websites:

www.knowyourix.org

www.notalone.gov

McNeese State University Counseling Center

Kaufman Hall, Room 112

Hours of Operation: Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Phone: 337.475.5136 | Fax: 337.475.5265

www.mcneese.edu/counseling

*A member of the University of Louisiana System.
EEO/AA/ADA*

Sexual Assault Prevention



MCNEESE
STATE UNIVERSITY
COUNSELING CENTER

What is sexual assault?

McNeese State University's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits any sexual conduct prohibited by the Louisiana Criminal Code. Such offenses include rape, attempted rape and sexual battery.

Louisiana Law: Rape is the act of anal, oral or vaginal sexual intercourse with a male or female person committed without the person's lawful consent. RS 14:41, See also: 14:42.1 (forcible rape) 14:43, (simple rape) 14:43.1 (sexual battery), 14:43.2 (second degree sexual battery).

Definition of Consent:

Sexual activity requires consent. Consent is defined as positive, voluntary agreement between the participants to engage in sexual activity.

Consent must be CLEAR and unambiguous.

Persons under the influence of alcohol or other drugs are not legally capable of giving consent.

The absence of "no" is NOT consent.

Consent must be garnered for each encounter. A prior relationship does not guarantee consent for future sexual activities.

Risk Reduction

Unfortunately, no one is completely immune from being sexually assaulted. However, there are things you can do to protect yourself:

Be alert of your surroundings.

Walk with a sense of purpose.

Park in well-lit areas.

Carry your keys in your hand, ready for use.

Let your friends know where you are and where you will be.

Never leave a drink unattended—if it gets out of your sight even for a short time, throw it away and get a new one.

Always lock doors to your home and car.

Assertiveness skills: Practice saying "no"—this will come in handy when you are in situations where you feel uncomfortable.

What to do if you are sexually assaulted:

Seek medical help: Consider going to the nearest emergency room so that a medical examination and rape kit can be completed. The SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Program provides immediate, unbiased, compassionate and comprehensive forensic evaluation and treatment by trained professionals. The SANE Program at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital can be reached by calling the emergency department at 494-3036.

Emergency contraception can be taken to reduce the risk of unwanted pregnancy. It can be purchased over the counter at the pharmacy of your choice.

Preserve evidence: If you do go to the hospital, do not shower/bathe, douche, brush your teeth, urinate or wash your clothes. Go immediately as you are.

Protection: In Louisiana you can get a Protection Order (PO) or Restraining Order. The intention of such orders is to prevent abuse and enhance safety for the person who is seeking the court's protection. For more information contact McNeese police, local police or a lawyer.

Seek support and help from others: Confidential professional counseling services are available on campus to all McNeese students. Call 475-5136 to schedule an appointment.

Common reactions following sexual assault

Everyone reacts to trauma differently, but here are some common reactions you might experience:

Emotional - fear, anger, denial, embarrassment, depression.

Physical - trouble sleeping, headaches, stomach problems, muscle tension.

Social - withdrawing from friends and family, distrusting others, fear of being in public situations.

Academic - difficulty concentrating or focusing, difficulty with memory, lack of motivation.

Bystander Intervention

If you see bad behavior escalating towards sexual assault, here are some things you could do to intervene:

- Keep in mind that safety should be your No. 1 priority.
- If someone is drunk/asleep/incapacitated, do what you can to see that this person gets home safely.
- Interrupt a situation that is escalating by turning off music or turning on lights.
- Interject yourself into a conversation when someone seems unsafe.
- Avoid using violence.
- Ask if the person needs help.
- Be willing to speak up in difficult situations.
- Recruit help from friends and others as needed
- If things are getting out of hand, call the police instead.

How can I support someone who has been sexually assaulted?

Help them get in touch with professional resources. (See resource list on back of brochure.)

Listen supportively and nonjudgmentally.

Do not minimize or justify.

Believe that person.

Let the survivor make the decisions. The survivor has been through a very disempowering trauma—allow that person to become empowered by making the choices.

Remind survivors that it is not their fault.

Persons needing accommodations as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the ADA Coordinator at 337-475-5428, voice; 337-475-5960, fax; 337-562-4227, TDD/TTY, hearing impaired; or by email at cdo@mcneese.edu.