

# SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS

- Sexual assault is the **least reported crime** in America.
- **1 in 5** women experience rape during college.
- Most sexual assaults on campus are committed by someone the victim knows.
- In more than **80%** of rapes, the victim knows the person who raped them.\*

## What is sexual assault?

Sexual assault is any unwanted sexual contact or activity. It may include verbal or visible behaviors, as well as forcing someone to join the sexual activity. Sexual assault can be committed by a friend, dating partner, a stranger, a family member, or school staff.

## What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment includes any sexual jokes, conversations, or offers that create an offensive, hostile, or intimidating environment.

\* Statistics from the 2005 National Institute of Justice Report

## Our legal services

IowaCASA has staff members that can help students who suffer sexual assault with campus, school, or civil remedies. Our legal services are free of charge.

Contact our office for more information:  
**(515) 244-7424**

**FOR IMMEDIATE 24/7 ASSISTANCE:**

**Iowa Sexual Abuse Hotline:  
1-800-284-7821**

**Iowa Victim Service Call Center:  
1-800-770-1650  
or text "IOWAHELP" to 20121**

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## Sexual Violence on College Campuses: What you need to know



Know Your Rights.  
Know Your Options.



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# WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?

## Do you need medical help?

It is your decision whether you would like to seek medical help. You may want to go to your local emergency room (ER), where you can get medical treatment or a sexual assault forensic exam.

In a forensic exam, physical evidence may be collected for use in a future criminal case. During this exam, you can be treated for injuries, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), or other medical needs.

**You can stop any part of the exam.** The State of Iowa pays for the exam and medication.

## Get in touch with an advocate

Victims in Iowa have the right to a Sexual Assault Advocate during every step of the process. This includes medical exams, police and school interviews, court hearings, and more.

**Sexual Assault Advocates are trained professionals with knowledge about what your options are and the resources in your area.** Their services are free and confidential.

## Justice means different things to different people

It is your decision whether you choose to report to police or your college. **You decide what's best for your healing.**

You can contact an advocate to talk about if making a report is right for you. An advocate can give you information about talking to police, help explain your school's policies, and what options you have.

## Other options

Other options exist under the law for you. Some survivors want protective orders, which tell the person who committed the rape to stay away from certain people and places. Talk to a lawyer or an advocate to find out more. **You may also visit [www.iowacasa.org/legal](http://www.iowacasa.org/legal).**

## Colleges and universities under Title IX

Title IX is a federal law that says sexual harassment is not allowed in schools. It says no person based on their sex can be denied access to any part of a school's programs or activities, and all students should be protected for sex-based discrimination.

**To find an advocate in your area, visit [www.iowacasa.org/help](http://www.iowacasa.org/help)**

**For more information about Title IX, visit [www.knowyourix.org](http://www.knowyourix.org)**

## Things to know about Title IX

- Sexual harassment, sexual assault, and rape are discrimination on the basis of sex
- Title IX covers all students regardless of gender identity
- Schools should provide safety options, including changes in students' housing, class schedules, and exam schedules
- Schools can order no contact between a survivor and the person causing harm
- Schools may not retaliate against or punish someone filing a complaint or allow another person to do so
- Schools cannot discourage you from continuing your education
- Schools must have a policy for handling complaints of sexual discrimination, harassment, and violence
- All schools receiving federal funding must follow Title IX

