

Sexual violence is a major concern on college campuses nationally. Increased federal regulation reflects that concern. Title IX, the Clery Act, and Section 304 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 — known as the Campus SaVE Act — govern how colleges and universities must work to prevent sexual assault and respond effectively when it occurs.

Campuses must have personnel with training and experience to handle sexual violence complaints.

Compassionate, trauma-informed responses to sexual violence are crucial for the well-being of students. Campus personnel should be regularly trained in those approaches.

Federal law requires university grievance procedures to meet specific standards.

Under federal regulations, campuses must promptly and equitably investigate and adjudicate sexual assault complaints. This report recommends policies and identifies best practices for handling those cases.

Serving on a hearing panel in a sexual assault matter requires training and experience.

Disciplinary hearings involving sexual violence are often complex and must carefully balance compassion for survivors with requirements of due process and fairness for the accused.

Campus disciplinary proceedings do not replace criminal investigation and prosecution.

Campus investigations and hearings for sexual assault complaints are required, but don't replace criminal prosecution. They offer an added layer of accountability. All of our campuses work closely with law enforcement to avoid conflicts.

Alcohol is often a factor in sexual assaults.

Alcohol abuse can create an environment where sexual assault is both easier to commit and harder to respond to, investigate, and prosecute.

UNC campuses already have well-developed prevention efforts.

We should continually assess those efforts and share the best of them across all campuses.

Failing to comply with sexual assault regulations puts students at risk and our institutions at risk.

Federal enforcement of rules and regulations governing sexual assault prevention and response has increased, as have public expectations.

Laws and regulations dealing with sexual violence on college campuses are likely to expand further.

There is ongoing interest on the part of students, the public, and policymakers in more fully addressing sexual assault and other offenses. Regular reviews of our policies and procedures will help ensure continued compliance and appropriate responses.

Preventing sexual assault — and responding with care and professionalism when it occurs — is an important responsibility for campuses.

The Initiative recommends:

- ▶ Adopting a systemwide policy on sexual harassment and sexual violence.
- ▶ Removing students from disciplinary hearings involving complaints of sexual violence.
- ▶ Setting clear standards of training and experience for anyone investigating sexual violence complaints.
- ▶ Making sure campus police departments provide interpersonal violence training for all police investigators.
- ▶ Establishing a system-level Campus Security Committee to regularly convene personnel from every campus to share best practices for dealing with sexual violence and other safety concerns.
- ▶ Developing training materials, consistent guidelines, and compliance resources that can be shared across all UNC campuses.
- ▶ Expanding staff capacity to meet growing responsibilities in confronting sexual violence and other serious offenses.

