TITLE IX/DHR OVERVIEW & REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

Heather Borlase, JD, MFS (she/her)

Executive Director, Equity Programs & Compliance Title IX Coordinator & DHR Administrator

Equity
Programs &
Compliance

WHAT CONSTITUTES PROHIBITED CONDUCT?

TITLE IX

- Sexual Misconduct
- Dating Violence
- Domestic Violence
- Stalking
- Sexual Harassment
- Consensual Relationships

DHR

- Discrimination (Protected Status)
- Harassment (Protected Status)
- Retaliation

WHAT IS TITLE IX?

Title IX is the Federal Civil Rights Law that states,

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance..."

Universities must comply with Title IX to ensure that all members of the campus community can participate equitably in educational activity and programming.



Equity Programs & Compliance

CSU Policy Statement

The CSU prohibits Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence and Stalking.

Executive Order 1096: Policy and Procedures; Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence and Stalking against Employees and Third Parties

Executive Order 1097: Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment & Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating & Domestic Violence & Stalking against Students

CSU Policy Statement

Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking violate University policy and may also violate criminal law.

<u>Executive Order 1096: Policy and Procedures; Discrimination, Harassment, Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating and Domestic Violence and Stalking against Employees and Third Parties</u>

Executive Order 1097: Systemwide Policy Prohibiting Discrimination, Harassment & Retaliation, Sexual Misconduct, Dating & Domestic Violence & Stalking against Students

Safety is Primary Concern

The University's primary concern is the safety of members of the Campus community; that the use of alcohol or drugs never makes the victim at fault for Sexual Misconduct; that Students or Employees who experience or witness Sexual Misconduct should not be deterred from reporting incidents out of a concern that they might be disciplined for related violations of drug, alcohol, or other University policies; and that Students or Employees who experience or witness Sexual Misconduct shall not be subject to discipline for related violations of conduct policies at or near the time of the misconduct unless the violation is egregious (including actions that place the health or safety of any other person at risk or involves plagiarism, cheating, or academic dishonesty).

Sexual Misconduct

All sexual activity between members of the CSU community must be based on **Affirmative Consent**. Engaging in any sexual activity without first obtaining Affirmative Consent to the specific activity constitutes **Sexual Misconduct** and is a violation of this policy, whether or not the conduct violates any civil or criminal law

Sexual activity includes but is not limited to kissing, touching intimate body parts, fondling, intercourse, penetration of any body part, and oral sex.

Affirmative Consent

Affirmative Consent means an informed, affirmative, conscious, voluntary, and mutual agreement to engage in sexual activity. It is the responsibility of each person involved in the sexual activity to ensure that Affirmative Consent has been obtained from the other participant(s) to engage in the sexual activity. Lack of protest or resistance does not mean consent nor does silence mean consent. Affirmative Consent can be withdrawn or revoked. Affirmative Consent cannot be given by a person who is incapacitated.

Dating Violence

Dating Violence is abuse committed by a person who is or has been in a social or dating relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. This may include someone the victim just met; I.e., at a party, introduced through a friend, or on a social networking website. For purposes of this definition, "abuse" means intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury or placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to self, or another. Abuse does not include non-physical, emotional distress or injury.

Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence is abuse committed against someone who is a current or former spouse; current or former cohabitant; someone with whom the Respondent has a child; someone with whom the Respondent has or had a dating or engagement relationship, or a person similarly situated under California domestic or family violence law. Cohabitant means two unrelated persons living together for a substantial period of time, resulting in some permanency of relationship. It does not include roommates who do not have a romantic, intimate or sexual relationship. For purposes of this definition, "abuse" means intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury or placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to self, or another. Abuse does not include non-physical, emotional distress or injury.

Stalking

Stalking means engaging in a repeated **Course of Conduct** directed at a specific person that would cause **Reasonable Person** to fear for the safety of self or others' safety or to suffer **Substantial Emotional Distress**.

Course of Conduct

Course of Conduct means two or more acts, including but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through Third Parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.

Reasonable Person

Reasonable Person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with the same Protected Status(es) as the Complainant.

Substantial Emotional Distress

Substantial Emotional Distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

Student/Employee Relationships

The CSU prohibits Employees from entering into a consensual relationship with any Student or Employee over whom they exercise direct or otherwise significant academic, administrative, supervisory, evaluative, counseling or extracurricular authority.

Retaliation is Prohibited

The CSU prohibits retaliation against a person who: reports Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Dating or Domestic Violence, or Stalking; assists someone with a report of such conduct; or participates in any manner in any related investigation or resolution. Retaliation includes threats, intimidation, reprisals and/or adverse actions related to employment or education.

Retaliation

Retaliation means **Adverse Action** taken against a Student because the Student has or is believed to have:

- A. Exercised rights under Executive Order 1096 or 1097;
- B. Reported or opposed conduct which was reasonably and in good faith believed to be in violation of an Executive Order;
- C. Assisted or participated in a policy-related investigation/proceeding regardless of whether the Complaint was substantiated; or
- D. Assisted someone in reporting or opposing a violation of an Executive Order, or assisted someone in reporting or opposing Retaliation under an Executive Order.

Adverse Action

Adverse Action means an action that has a substantial and material adverse effect on the Complainant's ability to participate in a University program or activity free from Discrimination, Harassment or Retaliation. Minor or trivial actions or conduct not reasonably likely to do more than anger or upset a Complainant does not constitute an Adverse Action.

SF State Employees <u>MUST</u> Report Prohibited Behavior



SF State Employees <u>MUST</u> Report Prohibited Behavior

With limited exceptions, any Employee who knows or has reason to know of allegations or acts that violate University policies shall promptly inform the DHR Administrator or Title IX Coordinator. These Employees are required to disclose all information, including the names of the Parties, **even where the person has requested anonymity.**

WHERE TO REPORT?

File a report online:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SFStateUniv&layout_id=3

The Title IX Coordinator/DHR Administrator at SF State is:

Heather Borlase, JD, MFS

Executive Director, Equity Programs & Compliance Student Services Building, Room 403

Phone: (415) 338-2032

Email: equityprograms@sfsu.edu or hborlase@sfsu.edu

AFTER A REPORT IS SUBMITTED...

Maxient IR Submitted

EPC Review

Outreach

Intake

Support Measures

Dismissal or TPEM

ADDENDUM A OR ADDENDUM B

Investigation or Early Resolution*

Interim Remedies

Final Investigation Report

Hearing

Sanctioning

Equity Programs & Compliance

SINGLE INVESTIGATOR PROCESS

Investigation or Early Resolution*



Interim Remedies



Single Investigator Findings of Fact and Findings of Policy

Sanctioning

Equity Programs & Compliance

HOW CAN EPC SUPPORT YOU?

In your capacity as an SFSU employee:

- Reporting consultation
- Policy training and education

If something happens to you:

- Facilitate on and off campus referrals
- Discuss your options, explain your rights
- Implement academic and wellness accommodations
- Facilitate an Informal Resolution
- Conduct a fair, impartial and prompt investigation

WHAT IS TITLE IX?

Title IX is the Federal Civil Rights Law that states,

"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance..."

Universities must comply with Title IX to ensure that all members of the campus community can participate equitably in educational activity and programming.



Equity Programs & Compliance

HOW CAN THE UNIVERSITY SUPPORT PREGNANT STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES?

Allow pregnant students to participate in classes and extracurricular activities even though they are pregnant and not require them to submit a doctor's note unless it requires a doctor's note from all students who have a physical or emotional condition requiring treatment by a doctor.

A school also must not require a doctor's note from a pregnant student after they have been hospitalized for childbirth unless it requires a doctor's note from all students who have been hospitalized for other conditions.

Provide pregnant students and employees with reasonable <u>adjustments</u>, like a larger desk, elevator access, or allowing them to make frequent trips to the restroom, when necessary because of their pregnancy.

Excuse absences due to pregnancy or childbirth for as long as their doctor says it is necessary.

Allow pregnant students to return to the same academic and extracurricular status as before their medical leave began, which should include giving them the opportunity to make up any work missed while they were out.

Provide pregnant students with the <u>same special services</u> it provides to students with temporary medical conditions. This includes <u>homebound instruction/at-home tutoring/independent study</u>.

Equity Programs & Compliance

Ensure that instructors understand the Title IX requirements related to excused absences/medical leave. A teacher may not refuse to allow a pregnant student to submit work after a deadline missed because of pregnancy or childbirth. If the instructor's grading is based in part on class participation or attendance and a student missed class because of pregnancy or childbirth, they should be allowed to make up the participation or attendance credits they didn't have the chance to earn.

Protect students from harassment based on sex, including harassment because of pregnancy or related conditions. Comments that could constitute prohibited harassment include making sexual comments or jokes about their pregnancy, calling them sexually charged names, spreading rumors about their sexual activity, and making sexual propositions or gestures, if the comments are sufficiently serious that it interferes with their ability to benefit from or participate in your school's program.

Provide students private rooms to pump milk or breastfeed.

https://hr.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/documents/lactation_rooms_location_map_2021.pdf

THIS JUST IN - AB 367

Sponsored by Assemblymember Cristina Garcia, <u>AB 367</u>, known as the Menstrual Equity for All Act of 2021, requires the California State University system — which has 23 campuses across the state — and community colleges to stock free menstrual products for students in at least one central location on each campus, starting in the 2022-23 academic year. The legislation also "encourages" the regents of the University of California and private higher education institutions to follow suit.

QUESTIONS?



Equity Programs & Compliance

THANK YOU!

Heather Borlase, JD, MFS

Executive Director, Equity Programs & Compliance

Title IX Coordinator/DHR Administrator

titleix.sfsu.edu

equityprograms@sfsu.edu or hborlase@sfsu.edu

(415) 338-2032