# If You Have Experienced Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, or Stalking

#### **Immediate Steps**

- Go to a safe place. Your Resident Assistant's (RA) room, a friend's room, or any open offices on campus.
- **Call someone you trust**. A friend, family member, or victim advocate are good resources. You do not have to go through this alone.
- Preserve evidence. After sexual violence, do not shower until you have considered whether to have a no-cost forensic sexual assault examination at the hospital. Save the clothes you were wearing (unwashed) in a paper or cloth bag. After sexual violence, relationship violence, and/or stalking, take photos of any damage or injury and keep communication records.

#### Within 24 Hours

- Seek out confidential support. You may want to turn to a confidential advocate or counselor for support and advice. They will speak with you about your options for additional support services and reporting.
- After unwanted physical contact, get medical attention. A medical provider can check for and treat physical injury, sexually transmitted infections, and pregnancy. You do not need to make a formal report or press charges to receive medical care.

# **At Any Time**

- Consider making a formal report. You are encouraged to report what happened to both the police and the Title IX Coordinator. You can decide how much you would like to participate in any investigation process.
- Blinn can help. Campus-based resources such as the Office of the Title IX Coordinator can assist you with changes to your housing, classes, work, and more. You do not need to make a formal report or press charges to receive help from Blinn.

# Blinn's Commitment to a Safe and Supportive Community

Blinn is committed to creating and maintaining a campus environment free from all forms of sexual harassment, sexual violence, relationship violence, and stalking. All reports are taken with the utmost seriousness.

You are not alone. You do not have to make a formal report or press charges to receive medical and academic support. The resources listed in this brochure can help.

# **Employee Reporting**

Blinn College cares deeply about supporting the reporting party and protecting community safety. Therefore, most employees who witness or receive a report of sexual harassment must report the incident to the Office of the Title IX Coordinator. Exceptions include employees who are empowered by law to maintain confidentiality, such as those in Student Health Services and Counseling and Mental Health Services.

Under the federal Clery Act, many employees also have a duty under federal law to report crimes to the Blinn College Police Department. Their report to police will include the date, time, and place of the incident, but not the identity of the reporting party.



### The Office of the Title IX Coordinator

Administration Building, Room 219
902 College Ave. • Brenham, TX 77833
979-830-4701
www.blinn.edu/title-ix

**Blinn College District** 

# Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, and Stalking



#### What is Sexual Harassment\*?

Sexual harassment is any form of unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, persuasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity.

#### What is Consent\*?

An understandable exchange of affirmative words or actions, which indicate a willingness to participate in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity. Consent must be informed and freely and actively given. It is the responsibility of the initiator to obtain clear and affirmative responses at each stage of sexual involvement. Consent to one form of sexual activity (like kissing) does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity (like sex). The lack of a negative response is not consent. An individual who is incapacitated by alcohol and/or other drugs, both voluntarily or involuntarily consumed, may not give consent. Past consent of sexual activity does not imply ongoing future consent.

#### What is Relationship Violence\*?

Relationship violence (also known as intimate partner, dating, or domestic violence) is a pattern of behavior in an intimate relationship used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation. Relationship violence can be verbal, emotional, and/or physical. Examples include: slapping, pulling hair, name-calling, damaging property, and threats of abuse or physical harm.

# What is Stalking\*?

Stalking involves any behaviors or activities occurring on more than one occasion that collectively instill fear in the victim and/or threaten her/his safety, mental health, and/or physical health. Examples include: non-consensual communications (in person, text, phone, social media, email), surveillance, or showing up at the targeted person's classroom or workplace.

# **Reporting and Investigations**

Reporting parties are strongly encouraged to make a report to both the police and the Office of the Title IX Coordinator for assistance and investigation. Reporting can help ensure the safety of the reporting party and the entire campus community. The reporting party has the right to report assaults without further participation in any investigation.

### **Blinn College Police Department**

Brenham Campus Student Center 902 College Ave • 979-830-4100

Bryan Campus Administration Building S, Rm. 103 2423 Blinn Blvd • 979-209-7600

www.blinn.edu/police-emergency-management

- Responsible for all criminal investigations for oncampus crimes
- State or local police are responsible for the investigation of off-campus crimes.

#### **Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Bennie Graves**

Available 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday Administration Building, Room 219 • Brenham 902 College Ave. • 979-830-4701 www.blinn.edu/title-ix

- Investigates College conduct code and policy violations when the accused individual is a Blinn College student or employee
- Investigates all reported incident(s)
- Students who violate College policies and conduct codes may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion and/or termination
- Title IX Coordinator, Dr. Bennie Graves, is responsible for ensuring that all reports are addressed by Blinn College

While a reporting party's conversation with any College employee will be kept private (will not be shared unnecessarily with others), only a conversation with a confidential resource can be kept confidential (will not be shared with anyone without the express consent of the reporting party).

### **Confidential Resources**

#### **Health Clinic**

Nurse available 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday Brenham Campus Health Clinic 904 Green St • 979-830-4899

Bryan Campus, Building D, Rm. 150 2423 Blinn Blvd • 979-209-7269

#### www.blinn.edu/health-clinic

- Crisis and follow-up care for reporting parties
- Assistance arranging referral services for evidence collection and crisis counseling

#### **Counseling Services**

Available 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday Brenham Campus Administration Bldg, Rm. 206 902 College Ave • 979-830-4196

Bryan Campus, Building D, Rm. 160 2423 Blinn Blvd • 979-209-7251

#### www.blinn.edu/counseling

- Crisis intervention and counseling for recent or past reporting parties
- Therapists can be accessed by appointment

# Non-Confidential Resources (On-Campus)

#### **Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Services**

Available 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Friday Old Main Building, Rm. 215 • Brenham 902 College Ave • 979-830-4316

- Assists with academic and other concerns, including changes or modifications to class schedules, rescheduling exams, and more
- You do not need to make a formal report or press charges to receive help from the Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Services

# **Housing and Residential Life**

RAs and Hall Directors On-Call 24/7 Administration Building Rm. 226 • Brenham 802 Green St. • 979-830-4190

#### www.blinn.edu/housing

- Knowledgeable and able to provide information about campus services
- Manages changes in housing

<sup>\*</sup>Please note that these definitions are contained within Blinn's Residential Life Handbook and are not the same standard applied in a law enforcement proceeding.