

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW  
AND HOW TO GET HELP



PERSONAL  
SAFETY  
AGAINST  
VIOLENCE

# Dear student,

Sexual assault and sexual violence are serious issues facing higher education. As an institution dedicated to cultivating academic success, student development, social justice, and civic engagement, Green River is committed to ensuring sexual assault and sexual violence have no place on our campus.

When students experience sexual assault their world is changed. The process of learning is interrupted, the course of personal development and growth altered, the bond of social trust broken. Sexual assault and violence cause immeasurable harms; some public, some private; some personal, some institutional; but all are an intolerable break from the purpose, mission, and values of Green River.

Green River has taken a number of steps to confront sexual assault and sexual violence. We have worked to update our policy and procedures, provide professional development to our campus, and ultimately to support students and employees in the process. In compliance with Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA), Title IX, and other legislation, the College is committed to fostering a safe learning and working environment for Green River College's students, faculty, and staff by providing preventative and bystander education, training, and resources.

The following are initiatives Green River's Personal Safety Against Violence (PSAV) Committee has implemented and annually monitors regarding sexual assault and sexual violence:

1. Reviewing and approving of campus policies assuring all federal and state requirements are met
2. Implementing campus-wide professional development training in the areas of bystander, reporting, and response
3. Updating campus website and other social media sites on policies and procedures
4. Providing brochures, video training segments, and other informational materials to assist individuals in how to respond and where to refer students and employees
5. Continuing to foster a culture of reporting and responding

Addressing and responding to sexual assault and sexual violence at Green River requires a coordinated and transparent effort by all community members. Green River will continue to advocate for constructive dialogues and policies supporting students and employees in not just adhering to compliance requirements, but developing and maintaining campus communities that are safe and conducive to learning.

Together we can ensure students continue to have safe, healthy, and welcoming campus environments to learn and grow by continuing to eradicate sexual assault and violence from our campus community.

With deep regard for creating a safe and just community for all,

***Deb Casey, Ph.D.***

Vice President of Student Affairs

# If you have been raped or sexually assaulted

## 1) Go somewhere safe

- If you are in danger, contact local police at 911 or Campus Safety at (253) 288-3350.
- Ask someone you trust (friend, staff or faculty, or family member) to stay with you for emotional support.
- Sexual Assault Resource Center, trained advocates are available 24 hours a day.
  - King County – (888) 998-6423 or
  - Pierce County – (800) 756-7273

## 2) Seek medical attention

- A support person or advocate can go with you.
- Injuries may not be immediately apparent. A medical exam can reassure you regarding potential injuries, can test for STDs and provide emergency contraception, and provide any needed treatment.
- Forensic evidence can be collected up to 72 hours after an assault.
  - To aid in preserving evidence –**
    - Do not change clothes. If you have, bring the clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault with you to the hospital.
    - Do not bathe, shower or douche before going to the hospital.
    - Collecting forensic evidence does not mean you will be required to pursue legal action.
    - Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress has 24-hour access to medical professionals trained in sexual assault. Contact (206) 521-1800

### **3) Seek ongoing support**

- Talking to a counselor can provide additional confidential support. You can contact Green River's Counseling Services Office at (253) 833-9111, ext. 2460. Week days 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- Sexual Assault Resource Centers can provide resources and referrals for ongoing support.
  - King County – (888) 998-6423 or
  - Pierce County – (800) 756-7273
- DAWN (Domestic Abuse Women's Network) Hotline: (425) 656-7867
- Feelings and reactions to the assault may persist. Talking with a counselor or advocate can help you sort through what you are experiencing.

### **4) Report the assault**

- Whether or not you report to police or to College officials is your choice. We encourage you to report.
- Options for reporting include filing an official police report and/or filing a report with the College's Title IX Coordinator. You can pursue the complaint and investigation process with both entities.

## **How do I report or file a complaint related to sexual misconduct?**

Any student, applicant, employee or visitor of the College may file a complaint. Green River has two Title IX Coordinators. The Vice President of Human Resources and Legal Affairs handles reports from College employees, applicants and visitors and the Vice President of Student Affairs handles reports from students.

Green River is required to take immediate and corrective action if a "responsible employee" knows of a sexual misconduct situation. Responsible employees include faculty, coaches, administrators, Resident Assistants and other student employees with a responsibility for student welfare.

# What happens when I report to the Title IX Coordinator?

The Title IX Coordinator is a school official who has been specifically trained in collecting information and in referring those impacted by sexual assault to helpful resources. The Title IX Coordinator -

- Will gather your information and keep accurate notes and records of your report and any referrals provided to you.
- Will inform and ask to obtain consent from you before commencing an investigation into a sexual violence complaint.
- Will determine and inform you if the College can honor a request for confidentiality. Maintaining confidentiality may limit the College's ability to fully respond to the allegations. Retaliation by the respondent and/or others is prohibited.
- May conduct an investigation or oversee an investigation handled by another campus official. If an investigation is to be conducted by someone other than the Title IX Coordinator, you will be informed.
- May impose protective measures during the investigations. Interim measures may be imposed to protect you and/or the respondent pending the conclusion of the investigation.
- Will issue written findings and recommendations upon completion of the investigation.

# What protective measures may I be offered?

Protective measures offered during the course of an investigation are determined on a case by case basis.

## **They may include, but are not limited to –**

- Campus enforcement of no contact orders
- Rescheduling of classes
- Temporary work reassignments
- Referrals for counseling or medical assistance
- Disciplinary action for the respondent consistent with the College's Student Conduct Code

## Definitions

- **Consent** – Knowing, voluntary and clear permission, granted by both parties, to engage in mutually agreed upon sexual activity. A person cannot consent if he or she is unable to understand what is happening or is disoriented, helpless, asleep or unconscious for any reason, including due to drugs or alcohol.
- **Dating Violence** – Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
- **Domestic Violence** – Violence committed by 1) a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; 2) person with whom the victim shares a child; and/or 3) person who has or is cohabitating with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological actions or threats that influence another person.
- **Sexual Assault** – Includes any form of actual or attempted sexual activity perpetrated upon a person without that person's consent, including sexual behavior coerced through physical or verbal threats, force or other forms of manipulation and sexual behavior when one person cannot give consent due to incapacitation.
- **Sexual Harassment** – A form of discrimination consisting of unwelcome, gender-based verbal, written, electronic and/or physical conduct. Sexual harassment does not have to be of a sexual nature, however, and can include offensive remarks about a person's gender.
- **Stalking** – Unwanted or obsessive attention by an individual, often consisting of the repeated following and harassing of another person, which would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others.

## **What is Green River College's Sexual Assault Policy?**

The College's policy, SA-19: Personal Violence, Harassment and Sexual Assault, can be found on the Green River website.

**What is PSAV** – The Personal Safety Against Violence Committee, in compliance with VAWA, Title IX, and other legislation, is committed to fostering a safe learning and working environment for Green River College's students, faculty, and staff by providing prevention education, training, and resources.

**What is VAWA** – The Violence Against Women Act is a federal law enacted to improve the criminal justice and community-based responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

### **Recognize and avoid abusive behavior such as:**

- Frequent yelling directed at a partner
- Blaming partner for own faults
- Name calling
- Consistently accusing partner of infidelity
- Kicking, holding, slapping, or scratching
- Forcible or coercive sex
- Sexual activity when one is not able to provide consent

### **Bystander Intervention:**

If you suspect that a friend or acquaintance is being abused or has been sexually assaulted or stalked, offer support.

- Speak out against all forms of sexual violence
- Be an Advocate for preventing sexual violence
- Model behavior that values respect for others

Green River College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President of Human Resources, 12401 SE 320th Street, Auburn, WA 98092-3622, (253) 288-3320. To receive this information in an alternate format, please contact Disability Support Services at (253) 833-9111, ext. 2631; TTY (253) 288-3359.



COLLEGE

12401 SE 320th St.  
Auburn, WA 98092-3622  
greenriver.edu

## Resources

**Emergency ..... 911**

### College Resources

**Campus Safety .....(253) 288-3350**

**Title IX Coordinator (students).....(253) 288-3328**

**Title IX Coordinator (employees and  
public/visitors) .....(253) 288-3315**

**Counseling and Health Services..... (253) 833-9111, ext. 2460**

### Community Resources

**Harborview Center for Sexual Assault (24 hour SARC  
nurse is available).....(206) 521-1800**

**DAWN Domestic Abuse Women’s Network  
(24-Hour Advocacy & Crisis Line).....(425) 656-7867**

**King Co. Sexual Assault Resource Center (trained advocates  
available 24 hours a day) .....(888) 998-6423**

**Pierce Co. Sexual Assault Resource Center (trained advocates  
available 24 hours a day) .....(800) 756-7273**