

# UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOUTH

## Sexual Misconduct Grievance Procedure

### Introduction and Scope

The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (“UMass Dartmouth” or “University”) prohibits sexual misconduct, as defined by federal and state statutes including Title IX, as amended in 2020 and published in Part 106 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (“Clery Act”), the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (“VAWA”), Massachusetts General Law S2927 “An Act Relative to Sexual Violence on Higher Education Campuses”, the University of Massachusetts Non-Discrimination and Harassment Policy T16-040 and the University’s Student Code of Conduct. UMass Dartmouth is firmly committed to ensuring that all applicants for admission or employment, employees, students, and persons who are authorized to conduct business with and/or perform other services on behalf of UMass Dartmouth are not subjected to such sexual misconduct, as defined by the above-mentioned regulations.

The Sexual Misconduct Grievance Procedure (“Procedure”) applies to instances of sexual misconduct that fall outside the jurisdictional and/or procedural parameters of the Title IX regulations, as outlined under the University’s Title IX Grievance Procedure:

<https://www.umassd.edu/diversity/policies-and-forms/>

This Procedure has been designed to address the unique procedural requirements found in the Clery Act, VAWA, and laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Please note that in cases in which certain factual details of an incident occur both within and outside the jurisdictional parameters of the Title IX regulations, the University’s Title IX Grievance Procedure shall apply.

### I. Definitions

**Advisor** means an individual chose by a party (the Complainant or the Respondent) to provide support to that party. Both the Complainant and Respondent have a right to an advisor of their choice throughout the process. The role of the advisor is limited to advising the student during the proceeding. The advisor may not speak on behalf of the student, examine or cross examine witnesses, or address the investigator, Administrative Review Panel or appeal officer. The Complainant may choose as their advisor, the University’s Victim Advocate, who serves as a confidential resource within the Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality.

**Complainant** is the person to have allegedly experienced sexual misconduct by a student or employee of UMass Dartmouth. The Complainant may or may not be a member of the UMass Dartmouth community.

**Confidential Employee** means an employee who, because of their position, may not reveal an individual’s identity or other information without permission, even to the Title IX Coordinator or designee. The following categories of employees are considered confidential employees:

- Licensed sexual assault counselors, psychologists, psychotherapists, social workers, clergy and attorneys, and those persons working under the supervision of such individuals, when acting in their professional role providing services to a patient or client;

- University employees bound by statutory privilege obligations under Massachusetts law; and
- University employees providing administrative, operational and/or related support for a confidential employee in the performance of such services.

**Consent** is clear, knowing, and voluntary words or actions that give permission for specific sexual activity. Consent is active, not passive. Silence, in and of itself, cannot be interpreted as consent. Consent can be given by words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable permission regarding willingness to engage in (and the conditions of) sexual activity. Consent to any one form of sexual activity cannot automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual activity. Previous relationships or prior consent cannot imply consent to future sexual acts. Consent can be withdrawn once given as long as that withdrawal is clearly communicated. Once consent is withdrawn, sexual activity must stop immediately. In order to give consent, one must be of legal age. In Massachusetts, the legal age of consent is 16. Consent cannot be given when a person is incapacitated by alcohol or another drug or if a person has a mental or intellectual disability.

**Dating violence** means violence committed by a person (A) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and (B) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (i) the length of the relationship; (ii) the type of relationship, (iii) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. For purposes of this definition, dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

**Domestic Violence** includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of a victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

**Gender Expression** is how an individual outwardly shows their gender identity, including, but not limited to, physical and social expressions such as a person's clothing, hairstyle, and name and pronoun choice.

**Gender Identity** is a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth. Gender identity is internal and a central part of a person's sense of self.

**Respondent** is a person alleged to have violated sexual misconduct as defined by Process B. In Process B, the respondent must be or have been a UMass Dartmouth student (accepted or matriculated).

**Responsible Employee** is an employee (a) who, because of their position, must report known or possible incidents of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct by students or employees, including the known details of the incident(s) and the names of alleged Complainant(s) and Respondent(s), to the Title IX Coordinator or other appropriate school designee; or (b) who has

the authority to take action to redress sexual harassment/conduct; or (c) whom a student reasonably believes has this authority or duty. UMass Dartmouth's Responsible Employees include the following categories of employees:

- Vice Chancellors;
- Vice Provosts;
- Deans;
- Faculty Directors of Centers or Institutes;
- Faculty;
- All Department Heads and Chairs;
- Staff and Librarians who direct the work of others in supervisory roles (including student employees);
- University police officers (but, see exception in footnote below);<sup>1</sup>
- Student Affairs staff (including student employees); and
- Employees specifically tasked with responding to sexual harassment and sexual violence (excluding confidential employees).

**Retaliation** is the interference through intimidation, threats, coercion, or unlawful discrimination, with an individual's right or privilege secured under the law [Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Massachusetts anti-discrimination laws, or other laws] to report or make a complaint, testify, assist or participate, or refuse to participate in any manner in an investigation or grievance proceeding, or hearing, or to intervene to prevent a violation of this policy.

**Sexual assault** means an offense classified as a forcible or nonforcible sex offense under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation<sup>2</sup>. Sexual assault is any attempted or actual act directed against another person, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent. More specifically, sexual assault is any attempted or actual sexual act directed against another person, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

The following violations constitute **sexual assault**:

- **Rape** is the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus, with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This offense includes the rape of both males and females and regardless of the age of the victim. If the victim consented, the offender did not force or threaten the victim, and the victim was under the statutory age of consent, defined as statutory rape.

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<sup>1</sup> Exception for public safety personnel. Although University police officers are designated as Responsible Employees, if a student or employee reporting sexual assault or domestic violence requests confidentiality, the University police officer must not disclose the name of the reporting party to the Title IX Coordinator or designee.

<sup>2</sup> Please see <https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/2012/resources/nibrs-offense-definitions> for the definition of sexual assault by the FBI uniform crime reporting system. For the definition of sexual assault under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts law, please see <https://statelaws.findlaw.com/massachusetts-law//massachusetts-sexual-assault-laws.html>

- **Fondling** is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the person of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental capacity.

**Incest** is sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

- **Statutory Rape** is sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

**Sexual Harassment** is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature when:

- (i) Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, education, or participation in University programs or activities; or
- (ii) Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a person or persons is used as a basis for employment or educational decisions affecting such person or persons, or participation in University programs or activities; or
- (iii) Such conduct unreasonably interferes with a person or person's work or academic performance; interferes with or limits a person or person's ability to participate in or benefit from a work or academic program or activity; or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment.

**Sexual Orientation** The term "sexual orientation" meaning having an orientation for or being identified as having an orientation for heterosexuality, bisexuality, or homosexuality.

**Stalking** means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to (A) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (B) suffer substantial emotional distress. For the purposes of this definition 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 means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may but does not necessarily require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

## II. Jurisdiction

This Grievance Procedure applies to incidents of sexual misconduct involving sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, gender-based violence including violence based on sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression as well as stalking as defined in Section I above and are filed against the alleged Respondent who is a current UMass Dartmouth student or was a student at the time of the incident.

Unlike the Title IX Grievance Procedure<sup>3</sup>, there are no jurisdictional restrictions for this Grievance Procedure as to the location of the incident, which may include cases that occur both on and off campus.

### **III. Confidential Resource**

UMass Dartmouth provides a Confidential Resource for students who choose to discuss an incident in a confidential manner. The Confidential Resource cannot and will not report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. The Confidential Resource will review both on-campus and off-campus support services as well as reporting options and procedures for resolution.

Contact Information for the Confidential Resource:

**Ashley Ruderman-Looff**

Assistant Director for Advocacy and Education

Center for Women, Gender & Sexuality, MacLean Campus Center 207

508-910-4584

[arudermanlooff@umassd.edu](mailto:arudermanlooff@umassd.edu)

### **IV. Reporting Sexual Misconduct**

Sexual harassing behavior is prohibited by the University's Non-Discrimination and Harassment Policy and should be reported in accordance with this Grievance Procedure in order to provide immediate supportive measures to both parties, grievance options for the Complainant, and whenever possible, to prevent any recurrence.

All faculty and staff, unless designated as a confidential employee, are deemed "Responsible Employees" and are expected to report incidents of alleged sexual misconduct that are reported to them to the Title IX Coordinator who, in turn, may contact the parties to offer supportive measures as well as to provide consistent information about complaint procedures and options for resolution.

#### **A. Matter Referred to Sexual Misconduct Grievance Procedure**

1. A formal written complaint alleging sexual misconduct that has otherwise been dismissed by the Title IX Coordinator or designee for lack of jurisdiction as outlined in the Title IX Grievance Procedure may still be brought forth under this Procedure. In such an instance, the Title IX Coordinator or designee will review the Sexual Misconduct Grievance Procedure with the parties along with the available supportive measures, and refer the matter on to investigation as outlined in Section IV below.

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<sup>3</sup> In terms of jurisdiction, the Title IX Grievance Procedure applies to allegations of sexual harassment that occur in the United States and:

1. On property owned or controlled by the University or property owned and controlled by a student organization that is recognized by the University; or
2. At or in locations, events or circumstances over which the University exercised substantial control over both the Respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurred.

2. An incident that is not a Title IX matter as defined in #1 above that is reported by a complainant or by a third party and after consultation with the complainant by the Title IX Coordinator. Those incidents may be reported by contacting the Title IX Coordinator at 508-999-8192 or via e-mail at [dgomes3@umassd.edu](mailto:dgomes3@umassd.edu) or by submitting a report at:

[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UMassDartmouth&layout\\_id=34](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UMassDartmouth&layout_id=34)

## **B. Anonymous Reporting**

A report may also be filed anonymously using UMass Dartmouth's online complaint form which does not require the reporting party to disclose their name. Please note that anonymous reporting limits the University's ability to respond or pursue appropriate action against the Respondent. Filing an anonymous report online is not considered filing a formal complaint under this Sexual Misconduct Grievance Procedure.

[https://umassdartmouth.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6PWfqEbSw5mw3Ou](https://umassdartmouth.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6PWfqEbSw5mw3Ou)

## **C. Supportive Measures**

The Title IX Coordinator, may at any time, coordinate the implementation of supportive measures for either a Complainant or Respondent. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the Complainant or the Respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed.

Supportive measures shall be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the University's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the University's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Counseling;
- Course-related adjustment, including extensions of deadlines or section transfers;
- Modifications of work or class schedules;
- Mutual restrictions on contact between the parties;
- Changes in work or housing locations;
- Leaves of absences;
- Assistance notifying law enforcement of alleged sexual harassment
- Assistance in seeking a court-issued protective order.

Upon learning of an incident of sexual misconduct, the Title IX Coordinator or designee shall contact the alleged Complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures as well as the Grievance Procedure.

The University shall maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the Complainant or Respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the University to provide the supportive measures. The University will maintain records of supportive measures for seven (7) years.

Violations of the Title IX Coordinator's directives and/or temporary measures will constitute related violations that may lead to further disciplinary action. Temporary measures imposed may become permanent depending upon the results of this Grievance Procedure as determined by the University.

### **Emergency Removal**

Supportive measures may include removal of a party from the University or a University program or activity on an emergency basis when the University has determined that the party is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment.

When supportive measures include emergency removal, the individual being removed will be given in writing a description of the emergency removal. The individual being removed has the right to be heard regarding the application or scope of the emergency removal whether before the measure(s) is/are imposed, or within a reasonable time thereafter by contacting the Title IX Coordinator.

### **V. Investigation**

All reported incidents that meet the jurisdictional parameters of this Grievance Procedure and in which the Respondent is a student of UMass Dartmouth or was a student of UMass Dartmouth at the time of the incident will be referred for investigation as required by both Clery, VAWA and Massachusetts state law.

A fair and impartial investigation will be conducted by a trained investigator. The Respondent, Complainant, reporting party (if not the Complainant), and relevant third-party witnesses will be contacted for an investigation interview.

Prior to the investigation interview, the Respondent will be sent a notice of charge to their UMass Dartmouth email address to include:

- 1) The date, time, and location (if known) of the alleged incident;
- 2) The specific policy or policies that were allegedly violated;
- 3) Notification that all proceedings will be conducted by individuals who receive annual training on issues related to sexual misconduct;
- 4) Notification that the Respondent is presumed to be not responsible for the alleged violation until a determination regarding responsibility is made;
- 5) That both parties (Complainant and Respondent) shall be provided with equal opportunities to inspect and review evidence obtained in the investigation;
- 6) That both parties may be accompanied by an advisor of their choice in all proceedings or meetings related to the matter and that the institution will define the role of the advisor;

- 7) That the standard of evidence used to resolve the matter is “more likely than not” or preponderance of the evidence;
- 8) That both parties have an equal opportunity to present evidence as outlined in this Grievance Procedure;
- 9) That the parties may not directly question one another during the proceeding;
- 10) That the parties shall be informed of the decision in writing not later than seven (7) business days after a final determination;
- 11) That both parties may appeal the decision as per the appeal protocol as outlined in this Grievance Procedure;
- 12) That the University will not disclose the identity of the parties except as necessary to carry out the proceedings;
- 13) The range of sanctions that may be imposed should a Respondent be found responsible for a violation of the policy.

The investigator will make a reasonable effort to obtain supporting documentation regarding the incident from other University resources. Upon completion of the investigation, the investigator, based on the totality of the available evidence, will recommend findings of “Responsible” or “Not Responsible” for violation(s) of the University policy applying the preponderance of the evidence or “more likely than not” evidentiary standard.

## **VI. Adjudication**

The Respondent and Complainant will be notified of the findings and recommendations and will have five (5) business days to determine if they would like to resolve the case by Administrative Agreement (agreement to the investigation findings) or by an Administrative Review Hearing. The investigator will attempt to meet with the Respondent and/or Complainant to discuss the findings. Should neither the Respondent nor Complainant select a resolution option, the investigator will process and close the case as an Administrative Agreement with the finding from the investigation. An Administrative Agreement or lack of response from either or both parties shall end this Grievance Procedure.

### **a. Administrative Review Hearing**

An Administrative Review Hearing is typically conducted within fifteen (15) business days of a request made by the Respondent or Complainant to proceed to an Administrative Review Hearing.

During an Administrative Review Hearing, a Respondent or Complainant has the right to:

- Be notified of all alleged violations. This communication is typically done through University email.
- Review the investigation report and all supporting documentation.

- Be provided with written information about the Administrative Review Hearing process.
- A reasonable period of time to prepare for the Administrative Review Hearing.
- Request a delay of an Administrative Review Hearing due to extenuating circumstances. (**NOTE:** The request must be made in writing and the decision to grant or deny such a request will be determined by the Title IX Coordinator or designee).
- Be notified of all proposed information to be presented at the Administrative Review Hearing.
- Be accompanied by an advisor of their choice. Advisors must be available at the time/date of the scheduled hearing. A hearing cannot be delayed or postponed due to a scheduling issue for an advisor.
- Be present at the pertinent stages of the hearing process as indicated by the Title IX Coordinator or designee. Deliberations of the Administrative Review Panel shall remain private.
- Submit a written response to the investigation report prior to the Administrative Review Hearing. If a student decides not to respond, it will not be considered an admission of responsibility for violation of the underlying policy.
- Respond, in person, to information presented at the Administrative Review Hearing.

An Administrative Review Panel shall be comprised of three (3) faculty and staff members who participate in annual training as required under both state and federal regulations. They shall conduct the Administrative Review Hearing according to the procedures below. An Administrative Review Hearing shall be conducted in private and virtually.

The Administrative Review Panel will receive all relevant materials prior to the scheduled Administrative Review Hearing for review including but not limited to, the investigation report, initial incident report, related Police report(s) if any, and written response from the Respondent and/or Complainant.

Those individuals present for the Administrative Review Hearing may include, but are not limited to, the Respondent, Complainant, investigator, Administrative Review Hearing panelists, and procedural facilitator.

Admission of any person into the meeting shall be at the discretion of the Administrative Review Panel. The Administrative Review Panel and/or the procedural facilitator shall have the authority to remove any person whose presence is deemed unnecessary or obstructive to the proceedings.

The Administrative Review Panel will allow for the parties to present a statement in writing or verbally as to how this matter has impacted them.

The Administrative Review Panel may ask clarifying questions of the Respondent, Complainant, or investigator. Questions may be submitted by the Respondent, Complainant, or investigator but should be directed to the Administrative Review Panel, to preserve the educational tone of the hearing and to avoid the creation of an adversarial environment. The Administrative Review Panel will determine whether they will pose the submitted questions. (**NOTE:** Massachusetts General Law S2979 prohibits the parties from asking questions of one another during the hearing).

After a determination has been made as to a finding of “Responsible” or “Not Responsible” for each alleged violation of University policy, the Administrative Review Panel will consider mitigating and/or aggravating circumstances before imposing sanctions: These factors include, but not limited to:

- Respondent’s student conduct history,
- the impact statements submitted by the Respondent and/or Complainant, and
- the investigator’s written recommendations.

Following the Administrative Review Hearing, the Administrative Review Panel will deliberate and shall advise the Respondent and Complainant, in writing within seven (7) business days, of its determination and of the sanction(s) imposed, if any.

A recording will be made of the Administrative Review Hearing and may be used in review of the case by the Administrative Review Panel and/or Appeal Officer. The Respondent and/or Complainant may request to listen to the recording in preparation of an appeal. Requests to listen to a recording should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator or designee. Recordings or transcripts of hearings will not be provided to the parties.

## **VII. Sanctions**

The following factors will be considered by the panelists when determining the appropriate sanction(s):

- Whether or not the sexual misconduct was perpetrated with a weapon or had other aggravating considerations;
- The impact of the conduct on the Complainant;
- Respondent’s prior disciplinary history, including current sanction status, if any;
- The impact of the conduct on the University community, and the need for any sanctions and remedies to eliminate, prevent, or address the existence of any hostile environment caused in the University community or to maintain a safe and respectful environment conducive to learning, working, and living; and
- Any other mitigating, aggravating, or compelling circumstances in order to reach a just and appropriate resolution in this case.

Disciplinary sanctions that the Administrative Hearing Panel may impose for students may include, but are not limited to:

- exclusion from participation in specified University programs or activities or other loss of privilege,
- warning,
- housing probation,
- removal from university housing,

- university probation,
- suspension from the University, or
- dismissal from the University.

### **VIII. Appeal**

A decision made by the Administrative Review Panel may be appealed by a Respondent and/or Complainant within five (5) business days of the decision. To be considered for review, all appeals must be in writing, cite the grounds for appeal, provide rationale supporting the grounds for appeal, and must be submitted via the link provided in the decision letter.

An appeal shall be limited to review of the case information and subsequent findings. The grounds for appeal shall be limited to the following reasons:

1. The due process rights and procedures as outlined in this document were omitted, ignored, or violated.
2. New information or evidence exists, that is relevant to the case, that was unobtainable or unknowable at the time of the Administrative Review Panel Hearing.
3. The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator(s), or Hearing Officer(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or the individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome of the matter.

If an appeal is submitted, sanctions imposed by the Administrative Review Panel, or interim actions imposed prior to the decision may be in effect during the appeal process. Please contact the Director of Community Standards with questions about sanctions during appeal.

### **IX. Sources of Assistance, Counseling, and Support**

Supportive measures are available to UMass Dartmouth community members who have experienced sexual harassment, regardless of whether they report the incident or file a formal Title IX complaint. Supportive measures are also available to the Respondent. Below are on-campus and off-campus resources which may be available to respond and assist. Inclusion in this list is not an endorsement. This information is subject to change.

#### **ON CAMPUS RESOURCES: FOR STUDENTS**

##### **Center for Women, Gender & Sexuality (Confidential)**

Campus Center, Suite 207

[www.umassd.edu/cwgs/](http://www.umassd.edu/cwgs/)

508-910-4582

##### **University Counseling Center (Confidential)**

Auditorium Annex

[www.umassd.edu/counseling/](http://www.umassd.edu/counseling/)

508-999-8650

**Office of Student Affairs**

Campus Center, Suite 221

[www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/](http://www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/)

508-910-6402

**Health Services (Confidential)**

Health Services Modular Building

[www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/health/](http://www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/health/)

508-999-8982

**Housing and Residential Education**

Oak Glen Hall, First Floor

<http://www.umassd.edu/housing/>

**Center for Religious and Spiritual Life (Confidential)**

Campus Center, Suite 221

<https://www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/departments/center-for-religious-and-spiritual-life/>

**FOR EMPLOYEES****ComPsyche Guidance Resources**

Employee Assistance Program (24/7)

<https://www.umassd.edu/hr/employee-resources/benefits/employee-assistance-program/>  
[www.guidanceresources.com](http://www.guidanceresources.com) (enter Web ID: UMASS)

844-393-4983

**FOR ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS****University Police Department**

Power Plant Building

[www.umassd.edu/university-police/about/contact](http://www.umassd.edu/university-police/about/contact)

Emergency: 508-999-9191

Business Line: 508-999-8107

**OFF CAMPUS RESOURCES:****The Women's Center**

Office: 508-996-3343

24-Hour Hotline: 508-999-6636 (99WOMEN)

[www.thewomenscentersc.com](http://www.thewomenscentersc.com)

405 County Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

All services are free and confidential

- Professionally trained volunteers provide immediate crisis intervention to victims of domestic/relationship violence
- Emergency shelter. A 90-day confidential shelter for women who have been battered (and their children).

- A 5-day safe home program is also available. Safe homes are individual sites in private homes that offer short-term safety (up to 5 days) to women, children, and gay men who are fleeing domestic/relationship violence.
- Court Advocacy Program. Accompaniment to court to file restraining orders (209A) and/or criminal charges. Medical, legal, housing, and other social program advocacy information and referral services.

**SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner)**

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) exam can be done to collect any evidence and is free of charge. SANE/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner sites in the area:

**St. Luke’s Hospital**

**508-997-1515**

101 Page Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

[www.southcoast.org/stlukes](http://www.southcoast.org/stlukes)

**Charlton Memorial Hospital**

**508-679-3131**

363 Highland Avenue

Fall River, MA 02720

[www.southcoast/charlton](http://www.southcoast/charlton)

During the SANE/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner exam, a **rape crisis counselor** from the New Bedford’s Women’s Center can be available to support you.

**Jane Doe, Inc., The Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence**

[www.janedoe.org](http://www.janedoe.org)

Jane Doe, Inc., The Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence brings together organizations and people committed to ending sexual assault and domestic violence. Jane Doe, Inc., also operates SafeLink.

SafeLink: 877-785-2020

SafeLink is a 24-hour, multi-lingual hotline for programs in Massachusetts. An advocate can talk with you about your needs and help you identify shelters, programs, and other resources. They can connect you to services for both domestic/relationship violence and sexual assault.

**Greater New Bedford Community Health Center**

874 Purchase Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

<http://www.gnbchc.org>

Main Phone: 508-992-6553

Dental Appointments Only: 508-984-7031

Women’s Health: 508-342-4400

TTY: 508-994-2478

Fax: 508-997-2498

(for medical information)  
FAX: 508-992-2023  
(for all other information)

**HOURS OF OPERATION:**

**Adult Medicine**

Monday thru Friday: 8:00 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.

**Adult Urgent Care**

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Saturday: 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Sunday: 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

24-hour/7-day on-call service. After hours, call 508-992-6553

**Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project**

Office: 617-354-6056

Crisis Line: 1-800-832-1901

<http://gmdvp.org/gmdvp/>

The Gay Men's Domestic Violence Program offers shelter, guidance, and resources to gay, bisexual, and transgender men in crisis to remove them from violence situations and relationships.

## Process B: Student Respondent

